

THE TRUE
CASE
OF ~~1790~~
1794
Mrs. CLERKE:

Set forth by her BROTHERS,

Sir EDWARD
AND TURNOR
Mr. ARTHUR

To which are added,

All the DEPOSITIONS on that
Occasion,

In Answer to a Scandalous Pamphlet, lately
Publish'd, call'd, *Mrs. Clerke's Case.*

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Presented
S. W. Musgrave.
1790



The Case of Mrs. Sarah Clerke and her
two Brothers, Sir Edward Turnor, and
Arthur Turnor, Esq;

THE Case of Mrs. Clerke has made a great deal of Noise in all Quarters of the Town; and both her Relations and Physicians have been severely censured, the One for asking, and the Other for giving such proper Advice as her Condition required. The Gentlemen, whose ~~Reputations~~ have been chiefly struck at, were not at all moved by these Popular and Party-Clamours, nor thought it worth their while to take notice of such Tea-Table-Talk, as would have died of course in a few Weeks; or however, have given Way to the next Crop of Scandal, which this fruitful and well cultivated Soil wou'd soon have produced. But since the World has been appealed to in as solemn and voluminous a Manner as the Author could rise up to, in a very dear Three-penny Pamphlet, Intituled, *Mrs. Clerke's Case*, The wonderful Production probably of one of those disinterested Physicians, who testify'd, that *she was of sober Mind*; it might look like a Sign of Guilt to be silent any longer; and if the Persons aspersed, should say nothing in their own Defence, the malicious World would be apt to conclude they had nothing to say.

The mutual and intire Affection that was always between Mrs. Clerke and her two Brothers, Sir Edward and Mr. Arthur Turnor) together with

the near and natural Tie of Blood, were too strong Obligations upon these Gentlemen, had they had less Honour than they are known to have, to suffer them either to have contrived or consented to any Contrivance of hard Usage towards their Sister, any farther than was absolutely necessary for the Preservation of her Life, or Understanding, or both. And it happens very luckily in this Case, that the Physicians they employed, are of such established Reputation and Character, that all the World will allow 'em to be Gentlemen who are above Corruption, and who scorn for any mean or mercenary Ends to prostitute their Profession, in order to serve any Turn, or Interest, or Party, or Person whatsoever. And it were well if those *disinterested* Physicians (as they are styl'd in this Pamphlet) could as clearly acquit themselves of the Charge of going out of their Profession, and instead of being Fee'd as Physicians to direct Medicines, of being hired as Evidences to give Testimony in a Court: But it is likely those who employed them were so well acquainted with the Talents of some of them, as to know for which of the two Tasks they were best qualify'd.

There were two Physicians of Note, superior in Fame, and equal in Title, even to the Renowned Sir *John Shadwell*, (we mean Sir *Sam. Garth*, and Sir *Hans Sloane*) who had so much regard to the Rules of Decency to their Brethren, and we suppose also to the Methods observed in their Profession, as to refuse being employ'd in such a Case, as they knew could be nothing else but Matter of Contention.

It was once thought most adviseable to have answered this doughty Piece in the Modern Way of Advertisement; but some of the News-Papers being taken up with a Controversy of another Nature, and the rest bespoke before-hand for a Month to come, by the several Candidates, for *Chamber-*

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lain and Bridge-Master, that Project was laid aside, as at present not easily practicable.

This indeed would have been somewhat like the Proceedings of the other Side, who in two of *Appleby's Journals*, *February 22.* and *March 8.* published such scandalous, but withal such false Accounts of this Matter, as the Gentlemen concerned thought worthy of no other Answer, besides Silence and Contempt.

It is not intended in the following Account, to answer either the frothy insignificant Harangues of the Florid, or the low Witicisms and obscure Hints of the Satirical Part of this Pamphlet. For what Answer can be given to nothing? Or what Answer need be given to what is nothing to the Purpose? But the plain Matter of Fact, as it appears in the Depositions, which were delivered upon Oath, by one Party as well as the other, are here faithfully laid before the Readers, whom for once, we may accost in the Language of old *Saffold* of famous Memory, (a Person of equal Abilities and Reputation with our Author or Authors) *Read, Try, Judge, and speak as you find!*

Mrs. Sarah Clerke went to the Bath in *October* last, 1717. and her Niece Mrs. *Mary Turnor* with her, as usual, Dr. *Mead* being now her Physician ever since Dr. *Radcliffe's* Death. She returned home on the first of *January*, where her Brother, Sir *Edward Turnor*, met her that Evening, and found her very sleepy; but attributing that to her Journey, left her in good Time to her Rest, and came to her again the next Day, and so almost every other Day till the 30th of *January*, on which Day he fell very ill of the Gout and Stranguary, and

stir'd not out of Doors till towards the Middle of February.

But whilst he did visit her, he found her either extraordinary sleepy, though never so much Company with her, or else eternally talking for two or three Hours together; to divert both which Distempers, he ask'd her several times if she would go to Cards? Which she for many Years has been very fond of, and there being no Body in the House who understood any thing of the Game of *Ombre* but her Niece, they three sat down to play, as often they had done, both in *London*, and at her Brother's House in the Country, and play'd for Sixpence a Dozen, but Mrs. *Clerke* was almost always a nodding, and so sleepy, that she knew not what she play'd; and being often called upon by her Brother to mind her Game, she wou'd start as if frightned, and then fall a nodding again, which she did several Days; her Brother did rise up, and told her, she was not fit to play with any Body, for she lost her Money to nothing; and having won about four or five Shillings, he took one Shilling only, and told her, he would make her pay for his Coach-hire home, but desired her never to play any more with those Ladies, who came often to her only for the Sake of her Money and a good Supper; for he had often seen her lose Two, Three, Four or Fiye Guineas a Night, at Three-penny *Ombre*.

Her Sleepiness, or talking by Fits, for three or four Hours together, and often very incoherently, continuing, her Brother begg'd of her to send for her Doctor, and take some Physick, which she promised to do, and accordingly Dr. *Mead* did prescribe her some Physick, which her Apothecary, Mr. *Nicholson*, brought her, and sometimes she would take it, and sometimes she would not: But one time particularly a Purge was brought her, and hap-

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happened to be carried down into the Kitchen ; and her Maid, as she said, carried it up into her Chamber, after some time staying in the Kitchen : And when Mrs. *Clerke* came up to Bed, the Maid told her of it ; but Mrs. *Clerke* looking on it, told her 'twas Poyson, and she would not take it ; and whilst this Humour was upon her, she refused to take her Physick, and every Day took Occasion to go abroad, sometimes very early in the Morning, and sometimes almost all the Afternoon. Her Brother, Sir *Edward Turner*, finding this, did earnestly beg of her to put herself again under the Care of her Physician, to prevent that Drowsiness, which else might end in a Lethargy ; upon which she took his Advice, and sent for Dr. *Mead*, and he prescribed her what Physick she would take ; and about once or twice she might take it ; but that preventing her from going abroad, she afterwards refused to take any more, pretending her Family, and every Body about her, would poison her : She began first with her Woman *Mary Tyrrell*, then with her Niece, and afterwards every one in her Family by Turns, and at last, it fell to her Apothecary and Doctor's Share, and she would take nothing. But being often very ill in the Night, and talking to her self almost all Night long, her Brother desired her to let some Persons set up with her, in Case she wanted any Body to assist her, which they did for two or three Nights ; and her Niece sat up with another Person the first Night ; but after some few Nights, 'twas thought more adviseable by her Brother to have her Maid *Mary Tyrrell* to have a Bed brought down, and put into a Closet in her own Chamber, which was done.

But two or three Nights before this, she happened to be very ill in the Night, and her Maid lying over her Head, or in the third Story, she rung her

Bell about 3 or 4 a Clock in the Morning and called her Maid up, which awakened her Niece who lay in the next Room and could hear every Word spoken in her Bed-chamber; and when the Maid came, she bid her to bring her a little Glass-Vial, in which was some Balsamick Syrup, which she took off, and bid the Maid *Tyrrell* go to Bed, but as she was going from the Bed she let the Glass-Vial fall, and broke it, at which Mrs. *Clerke* was very angry, and made her take it up from the Ground, and put what Syrup she could into a China-Cup, which she did, and the Pieces of Glass also, and set the Cup in the Chamber-Window; and Mrs. *Clerke* rising very early, she rung for the Maid, and seeing the Cup in the Window, she drank some of the Syrup, and seeing the Pieces of Glass in the Cup, she cry'd out she was poisoned, and made such a Noise, that her Niece came running to her, to whom she told she was poisoned with Glass, and some of it stuck in her Throat; and asked her Niece what was good for it? who told her, a Vomit was the best Thing she could think of, and she might quickly make a Tea or Liquorice-Vomit, or drink a great deal of warm Water, which she had used to do; which she did, and brought up something which she made her Maid search for in the Bason, and therein she found a little Piece of Sea-coal, as they thought, and then she seemed to be pretty well; but still it run in her Head that she had swallowed some Glass. Though at another Time she told Mrs. *Stukely* and Dr. *Hale*, that she had only like to have swallowed this Piece, but pull'd it out of her Throat with her Fingers. And when her Brother came that Day, the 14th of *Janu-
ary*, to dine with her, she told him of it, who asking her if she felt any Pain in her Throat, in her Stomach or Guts, perhaps there might be some, but if she found none hurt her Throat when she swallowed

swallow'd the Syrup, nor no Pains about her, undoubtedly she had not swallowed any: But she would not be perswaded that she was not poisoned, and sent in great haste for Dr. *Freind*, who being told by the Messenger that a sudden unfortunate Accident had befallen Mrs. *Clerke*, left his Dinner, and came immediately to her. When the Doctor came in, she told him she had had an Accident in swallowing some Glass, but before she talked of that, must give him an Account of her Constitution. She began a Year or two backwards, and gave a long and particular Account how she found herself at the *Bath*; the Doctor was a perfect Stranger to her, however, he often put in a Word to remind her of coming to the Point of the Glass, for which he was sent for in so much haste, but he could not prevail, 'till the whole History was first out. Upon examining the Matter, he told her, 'twas his Opinion that she had not swallowed any Glass, or if any little Bit had by Chance slipt down, she need not fear any ill Effect from it: For he would order her some Manna, and Broths, as he did, which would carry it off, and she would hear no more of it. Accordingly the next Morning she sent him Word that she was very well. The Doctor in a few Days after went into *Yorkshire*, without seeing her again; but during his Absence, Mrs. *Clerke* often sent to his House, and would not believe he was from home, and sometimes came herself, and asked the Servant if Dr. *Mead* was within?

A Day or two after that, she took a Fancy again, that her Maid *Tyrrell* was in League with the Apothecary's Journey-man, and that they Two had combined to poison her; and having been told that there was a Gentlewoman who lived at *Deptford* and somewhat related to *Tyrrell*'s Brother, she would not be satisfied, but sent her Coachman with

with her Horses and a hired Chariot, and her Footman *Will. Mills*, and *Katharine* her House-maid, to fetch that Gentlewoman from *Deptford*, though she had never seen her in her Life before: Which Gentlewoman coming to her in the Evening, and not knowing any thing of what she enquired for, Mrs. *Clerke* then did not know what to do with the Gentlewoman; but at last (she not being able to return home that Night) caused her to lie with Mrs. *Pordage*, a Kinswoman of her own, who lodg'd in her House, and sent her away next Morning; whether rewarded for her Trouble or not, is not certainly known. Her Brother being told this, and telling her of it, and what an extravagant Action 'twas, she fell into a mighty Passion, and railed against his Daughter's Maid, and said she was a diabolical Woman; and sometimes against his Daughter, and said she was married to the Duke of *Gordon*; and she said at other Times, that the Duke, tho' a marry'd Man, was to be married to a Person of Quality, and desired a particular Friend of that Lady, that he would use his Interest to prevent it; but now he affirmed he was married to her Niece, and that he visited her very often in her Chamber; which her Brother being sensible he did not, and having seen the said Duke in her Parlour, visiting of herself, and his Daughter above Stairs, and came not down that Afternoon at all, having the Lady *Betty Butler* and Mrs. *Sharpe* above with her, and hearing her, his Sister, invite the said Duke to Dinner, he believed no such Thing, but that 'twas a Lye of her Maid *Tyrrell's* raising, or else old *Flower's*, who had always been used to tell her Lies and Stories of the whole Family; but Sir *Edward* said, if his Daughter's Maid offended her, she should be turn'd off so soon as his said Daughter could get another. And accordingly her Brother did speak to his Daughter

to get another so soon as she could, but desired her at the same Time to remember, that when she was in his House in *August* and *September* last, the said *Tyrrell* had told her several Lies and false Stories of most or all of his Servants, which his Sister had told him again whilst at his House at *Hallingbury*; and he begg'd of her not to meddle with his Family as he had never done with hers. All this while she would take little or no Physick, being still of Opinion that she should be poisoned. And her Apothecary, Mr. *Nicholson*, a very honest Man, who had served her almost thirty Years, came one Morning to her Brother's Chamber, and even with Tears in his Eyes complained to her Brother of the rudeness of old *Flower*, who is above 80 Years of Age, how she had reproach'd him with the Doctors of an Intention to poison her, else, why would he give her so much *Laudanum*? And he reply'd again, That *Laudanum* was a very improper Medicine for one who was always asleep; she reply'd, She was sure she wou'd be poison'd. And her Brother, Sir *Edward*, telling his Sister of Mrs. *Flower*'s Behaviour, and begging of her to be quiet and pacified, after three or four Hours Stay with his Sister, went home and left her, desiring her to consult her Physicians.

By this Time 'twas come to be the 26th of *January*, being *Sunday*, and her Brother dining with her that Day, and asking his Daughter, whom he thinks he saw first, for she used to meet him in the Passage to ask his Blessing; and asking her how her Aunt did? she told him Dr. *Mead* had been with her that Day about 12 a Clock, and had prescrib'd something, but she doubted she would not take it; and that Dr. *Mead* had told her that her Aunt was very much out of Order, for she was disturb'd in her Head; and that he would call upon Sir *Edward* and tell him of it; upon which Sir *Edward* went

went and sat down by his Sister, and aked her how she did before Dinner, and if her Doctor had been with her ? to whom she reply'd, He had ; but had done nothing to her liking. And he asking her if she had any Bill for Physick, if she had, so soon as he came home he would fend the Bill to her Apothecary, as formerly he used to do ; but she would not give him the Bill : And whether she sent it by her own Servant or not, her Brother knows not, but rather believes she did not ; for if he is not very much mistaken, she was abroad almost all the Day.

But that Day at Dinner, being the 26th, her Brother finding her to ramble very much in her Discourse, and talking very passionately, and asking him if he had ever been acquainted with Antimony ? he told her, no ; but he had heard of the Antimonial Cup, and that White-wine or Sack steep'd in such a Cup, was a Vomit : And he had heard of crude Antimony, which beaten to Powder, mix'd with Oats for a Horse, was a very good Receipt for a Farcy Horse. Then she asked him if he had ever heard of the Glass of Antimony ? and he telling her he had not, and asking her what she meant by it ? she told him she was sure the last Physick she took had Antimony in it, or Glass of Antimony, or some such Thing, for she found it in the Bottom of the Physick she had taken lately : Whereas, before, she had told her Brother she did not know what Antimony was.

On the 2d of *February* she was willing to take Advice again, and sent to Dr. *Freind* to meet Dr. *Mead*. The former did come, but the latter being engag'd at *Kensington*, could not ; so the Consultation was put off till the next Day, when they both met ; she talk'd in a very rambling odd Manner to them, and they both of them express'd their Fears of her growing more disorder'd in her

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Head, if she did not follow Directions more punctually than she yet had done. With great Difficulty they prevail'd upon her to Bleed ; and ordered her some Physick, which she took next Morning. At Noon Mrs. *Masters* came to Dr. *Freind*, and desired him to go to Mrs. *Clerke* immediately ; the Doctor said he was at Dinner, but would come as soon as ever he had din'd ; she pressed him again to come along immediately with her, for Mrs. *Clerke* would not be satisfied till she had seen him. The Doctor went, and found her in Bed, in violent Passions with all her Servants, and Mr. *Nicholson* the Apothecary : The Doctor ask'd her how her Physick agreed with her ? she said, very well, and had answer'd, she suppos'd, what it was design'd for ; it had given her two Stools : But, says she, I have never a faithful Servant in the House ; no Body will do it for me ; I have offer'd a Guinea to Mr. *Nicholson*, and he won't do it. The Doctor ask'd what she would have done ? I would have them look into the Chamber-pot, said she. When the Doctor ask'd for what ? she answer'd, for the Glass which you know I swallow'd. The Doctor endeavour'd to convince her of the Absurdity of such a Fancy, and how impossible it was any Glass should be there, that Accident of swallowing Glass, if she had swallow'd any, having happen'd three Weeks ago. But nothing he could say would pacify her ; she was sure there was Glass in the Chamber-pot ; she would have it search'd. It was carry'd out ; and the Doctor told her it was search'd, and there was no Glass in it : Upon which, she grew very easy.

After this, for two or three Days, she would do nothing of what the Physicians prescrib'd, but was perpetually visiting or visited. And Sir *Edward Turner* observing these and many other rambling and

and raving Discourses, and fearing she would go Abroad that Afternoon and expose herself, asked her to lend him her Coach, which she did ; and knowing Dr. *Mead*'s Hours at home being about 4 of the Clock in the Afternoon, he went to the Doctor's, and found him at home ; and after about half an Hour's Discourse with him, in which the Doctor told him, she was disturb'd in her Head to that Degree, that she wanted Dr. *Hale* more than Him or Dr. *Freind* ; and her Brother believing this, coming from two such eminent Doctors, and by what he had by his own Observation seen and known for some Days before, told Dr. *Mead* that he did not know Dr. *Hale*, and therefore begg'd of him, Dr. *Mead*, that he would carry Dr. *Hale* along with him to tell him his Judgment ; and that he might easily do it, for he believ'd his Sister did not know Dr. *Hale*, and he might carry him and introduce him as his Friend, which Dr. *Mead* promised to do.

And from Dr. *Mead*'s House, her Brother Sir *Edward*, went to his Brother Mr. *Arthur Turnor*, who lives in the same Square with Dr. *Mead*, and told him what the Doctor had said ; and his Brother agreed to the sending of Dr. *Hale* with Dr. *Mead* to their Sister.

In some few Days Dr. *Mead* did carry Dr. *Hale* to their Sister, who, as her Brother was inform'd, was in her Parlour, and she refused some Time to let him feel her Pulse, but when they had discoursed with her, and made what Observations they could upon her Case, they plainly saw the Disorder of her Head, and prescrib'd what Medicines they thought proper ; and accordingly the Medicines were carried to her that Day. But Sir *Talbot Clerke*, a young Gentleman whom she had maintain'd upon Charity, with his Father, Mother, two Brothers, and one Sister, came into her Parlour in

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the Afternoon, before some Company, and told her, that 'twas reported in the Coffee-Houses that she was mad ; and told her, that one of the Doctors she had had with her, was the Physician of *Bedlam*, and hoped she would take no Physick from him, for she was as well as ever she was in her Life. And the Physick coming to her that Evening whilst he was there, and the Plaisters ; he told her, Look here, Madam, here are Blistering-Plaisters, and Physick, I hope you will take none of them ; and desired he might send them home again, which Sir *Talbot Clerke* did, by her Footman *William Mills*. During this Time, her Brother Sir *Edward*, was taken ill of the Gout and Stranguary, and fearing it might hold him a long Time, he made a shift to see his Sister that Afternoon, and told her what extravagant Humours she had taken upon her, and begg'd very earnestly of her to be guided by her Doctors, lest her Sicknes should encrease upon her too fast without some Prevention ; and that he begg'd it of her now the more earnestly, because he feared he should not see her again in a great While ; as he did not, but in his own Lodgings, till *Thursday* the 27th of *February*, when he saw her at the Lord Chief Justice's Chamber : And her Brother Mr. *Arthur Turnor* having been so very ill of the Stone for above a Year, that he was not able to stir abroad in a Coach, nor scarce in a Chair, so that by both their Distempers she was left to her self ; for her Niece had no Power with her, by the Means of Sir *Talbot Clerke* and his Wife, but particularly of Mrs. *Stukeley* and her 3 or 4 Sisters the *Master's*, who were perpetually following poor Mrs. *Clerke*, and took a little House two or three Doors from her, and were constantly some of them eating and drinking at Mrs. *Clerke's*, and frequently talking many Hours to her, and provoking her to

to Discourse, which she was too prone to do, though to the Disturbance of her Head and Brain, as will be quickly made appear.

After this, Mrs. *Clerke* desired she might again be in the Hands of Dr. *Mead*, and Dr. *Freind*, and she would do whatever they would have her. Accordingly they did meet again, *February 11.* and prescrib'd for her. But she still going abroad instead of taking her Medicines, they both declared they could do her no Manner of Service, if she managed her self at this Rate, and could not answer for the ill Consequences that might attend such a Neglect of her Health; and acquainted her Relations, that she must be kept to a stricter Confinement, and forc'd to take Medicines.

Mrs. *Clerke* continuing thus without any Advice from her Doctors, and rambling abroad in the Morning betimes, and sometimes in the Evenings, she came once in two or three Days to visit her Brother Sir *Edward Turnor*, for whom she had always professed a very great Friendship and Kindness, as indeed he believes she had, till this unfortunate Accident of her Distemper; because he could not, in his own Judgment, as well as by the Doctors Opinions, agree with her that she was not disturbed in her Head, which she shewed every Day more and more upon her visiting him; for he having told her one Morning of her extravagant Opinion, that she was to be poisoned by every one in her own Family by Turns, excepting old *Flower*, and afterwards by her Doctors and Apothecary, who had served her for above 30 Years very faithfully and honestly, as she had often declared, and had persuad'd her Brother for many Years to make use of the same Apothecary, which her Brother did, both for himself and all his Family, and found him very honest and careful, as well as skilfu' in his Busines, to the best of her Brother's Understanding.

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And her Brother told her also, of her sending to *Deptford*, upon Suspicion of the Apothecary's Journey-man and her Maid combinining to poison her, and what little Satisfaction she had reaped by it: She fell into violent Passions, and told her Brother, he would never believe any Thing she said, and that she would make it out; which he told her he could not believe; for what could they get by it, but to be hanged for their Pains? And he told her she had never deserved such Usage from any Body, for he had observed her always to do what good she could, and she was always charitable to all Persons who wanted her Assistance; and therefore begged of her very earnestly to stay at home and be quiet, and send for her Doctors, who he did not doubt, but with Care, would restore her again to her right Judgment. But she fell into mighty Passions again, and so left her Brother.

And very amazingly to her Brother, sent her under Foot-Man *William Mills*, either the next morning, or the Morning after, with a Message by word of Mouth, that she desired him her Brother, to send for the Lord *Harcourt*, and Sir *Constantine* *Apps*, and whom else he thought fit, and she would bring all her Family before them, and her Brother with them should try them all: To which Brother made Answer to *William Mills*, that in his Life he never heard of so wild a Proposition, and bid him tell her that he desired her to be quiet.

Which Footman, as her Brother has been since informed, she gave a Guinea to carry the Message, and told him her Brother wou'd give him another; but *William Mills* did not think fit to tell her Brother of it. For which Message, and what happened upon it, see the Affidavit of *Mary Ayon*.

Within a Day or two afterwards, she came again to her Brothers, and complained of his Daughter's Maid, *Mary Avon*, what an Insolent Wench she was, and how she had said, she, Mrs. *Clerke* was mad, and ought to be kept up, and that her Mistress, her Niece, had supported her in it, and desired that her Maid might be sent away. To which her Brother replied, he doubted she had wrong Information, for she had two ill Persons about her old Mrs. *Flower*, whom he had known for 50 Years and who had been always guilty of making Stories and Lies both of her own Servants and other where-ever she came; and that her Maid *Tyrrell* was as bad as Mrs. *Flower*, for they finding she was apt to hear Stories, had supplied her sufficiently with them.

As to his Daughter's Maid, he told his Sister she should be turned off as soon as his Daughter could get another, and accordingly he spoke to his Daughter about it, which she promised to do.

About this time Sir *Edward* having told his Sister this, and his Daughter, and Mrs. *Pordage* being come to see him, he was surprized to see his Sister come into his Chambers, with the said Mrs. *Flower* and one or two more, saying, she had brought her Servants to clear themselves; and her Brother telling her 'twas impossible for them to do it, since he himself knew the very Particulars, and had repeated them to her, she said she would turn them all away; and after many Words and Passionate Expressions, went away, and in a Day or Two turned off the said *Tyrrell*, paid her her Wages, and told her, she had been the Occasion of a great deal of Mischief, and appealed to her Niece if she had not. She also turned off her Cook-Maid (but 'tis said the Cook-Maid turn'd off her self): She also told Mrs. *Flower*, paid her two Footmen to the full of their Wages, and took Receipts from all of them.

as the said Mrs. *Flower* has since told Sir *Edward*; so that he turn'd off none of those Servants, as has been falsely sworn against him. For when he took Possession of the House, by his Servants and two *Temple* Porters, they found the said Mrs. *Flower* in the House, and one *Katherine Evans*, who had served his Sister 3 Years, and the two Footmen; and there the two Women remained till the *Westminster* Justices broke open his Sister's Doors; and the two Footmen were told they might do so, if they did not meddle or make with Affairs within Doors, nor run out and make Disturbance, and raise a Mobb in the Street; which they did, — and then they were shut out, till the Justices put them into Possession again, when they broke open the Doors and carried Mrs. *Clerk* away with them.

During all this Time, from the 30th of *January*, Mrs. *Clerk* went abroad every Day, Morning and Afternoon, till she was carried up to her Chamber and confined (which was on *Saturday*, the 15th of *February*) and in that time exposed herself in all Companies, and was very angry with her Niece, because she avoided going abroad with her; which her Niece did decline, because she was sure her Aunt would expose her self as she daily did at home, (her Aunt receiving all Visitors, who were pleased to come to her) by eternally talking, and that so incoherently, that her Niece was forced to keep her Chamber, to avoid the Confusion she was daily put in by it, and particularly the last Week before she was confined; which her Brothers were very unwilling to do, hoping the best, and that she might be perswaded to confine her self, which she obstinately refused. During all which time, Sir *Talbot Clerke*, a Cornet of Horse, which Place she procured him, and his Wife, Mrs. *Stukely*, and her 3 Sisters the *Masters*'s, were some, or all of them almost daily with her, flattering, and telling her,

she looked very well, and that she seem'd to be as well as ever she was since their Knowledge of her; and this some of them have sworn in their Depositions before Sir *Harry Dutton Colt*, a *Westminster-Judge*: *Vide* Mrs. *Stukely*, Sir *Talbot Clerke's* Depositions, *Mary Tyrrell*, *Eleanor Pilkington*, *Hugh Stone*, *William Mills*, and several other Depositions and Examinations upon Oath to that Purpose, and a Second (as I take it) Affidavit to clinch all, before the Lord Chief Justice *Parker*, made by Mrs. *Stukely*.

But from the above-mentioned 30th of *January*, till the *Thursday* the 13th of *February*, Mrs. *Clerke* once in two Days visited her Brother *Sir Edward*, who lay very ill, and tarried with him from the Morning generally till Two or Three of the Clock, and did talk so extravagantly, and from her usual Sense and Understanding, that he was convinced of her Lunacy, talking over all those mad Particulars in the several Affidavits annexed, and sworn by *Charles Turnor*, *Arthur Turnor*, *Mary Turnor*, *Rachael Pordage*, *Thomas Prior*, *Mary Avon*, and *Edward Pordage*.

And more particularly on *Thursday* the 13th of *February*, she talked much of her Purity, and of her being as unspotted, and as far from the Knowledge of Man, as the Virgin *Mary*; which when her Brother objected to her how could that be, when she was Ten Years married, and lay Nightly with her Husband? She made no Answer, but drop'd down on her Knees, and for whatever her Brother could do, prayed aloud for some Time, but such nonsensical Stuff, and so wild, that he was surprized extreamly, and begg'd of her to go home, and not worry her self as she daily did; which at last she did consent to. But before she went, she asked her Brother, if he would not own that she was in her right Senses? To which he answered,

how

how could he do that, since she daily, and particularly that Day, had behaved her self so contrary to all Sense and Reason? At which she rose up in a Fury, and said, well then I'll never see your Face more; and go your Ways, and live with your Three Wives, one of which your Daughter saw you in Bed withal. To such an extravagant Passion did her distracted Head drive her; for when she had her Senses, she knew very well, she had often proposed to her Brother to marry again, and she offered him Matches, and knew he might have married very much to his Advantage, but that he always declined it.

She kept her Word, and her Brother never saw her again, till she was brought before the Lord Chief Justice at his Chambers on the 27th of *February*, 1717.

On the last Day which her Brother saw her, as above-mentioned, which was *February* the 13th, his Daughter sent him a Letter, with one enclosed, which was writ to her that Morning by Mrs. *Hartstonge*, the Bishop of *London-Derry*'s Widow, which Letter ('tis desired may be perused) and his Sister's wild Discourse together, put him into such a Dis-order, that his Hands and Feet fell a trembling that he thought he should have Convulsions, which made him send immediately for Dr. *Mead*, who could not be found till Eight a Clock at Night, and then the Doctor came very kindly, and directed him some Medicines to take, and telling the Doctor of his Sister's Condition, how much worse she was, the Doctor reply'd, it had been his Opinion, she ought to have been confined some Time before; and then Sir *Edward* asking him if he would Sign such a Letter, and if he thought Dr. *Freind*, to whom he was a perfect Stranger, wou'd do the same! the Doctor reply'd, he would write such a Letter to him, and that he was sure Dr. *Freind* would do

the same, for 'twas his, Dr. *Freind's*, Opinion as well as his own. Dr. *Mead* did then write that Letter in the Presence of Sir *Edward*, and he sent it forthwith to Dr. *Freind*, by his Daughter Mrs. *Turnor*, and Dr. *Freind* sign'd the Letter, and sent it back by the same Hand. And the next Day, being *February 14*. Sir *Edward*, and his Brother Mr. *Arthur Turnor* sent a Letter by Mr. *Nicholson*, to Dr. *Hale*, to desire him to take care of their Sister, as they were advised by Dr. *Mead* and Dr. *Freind*. Dr. *Hale* did send with the Apothecary's Journey-man two Nurses to attend their Sister, and to carry her up Stairs to her Chamber. The two Brothers being very ill, could neither of them go to their Sister ; but Mr. *Arthur Turnor* sent his Son to perswade her if possible, or else to carry her up ; but she wou'd not be perswaded, and Mr. *Edward Turnor* her Nephew, would not nor did not carry her up, so her Confinement was deferred for that Day ; but the next, Mr. *Arthur Turnor* and Dr. *Hale*, after having tried all Perswasions and fair Means to get her into her Chamber, ordered the two Nurses to carry her up, which they did ; she strugling indeed, and railing all the Way, but she was not dragged, as she has reported ; for the Nurses took her under the Hams, and on the Bottom of the Back, her Brother Mr. *Turnor* holding her Shoulders and Head ; and so confined her to her Chamber, she crying out for Help ; Mrs. *Stukely* having been with her almost all that Day, and then present.

We should have mentioned that Mrs. *Mary Barrington* whilst Sir *Edward* was sick, made him a Visit, and informed him in what Condition his Sister was, and how madly and extravagantly she talked, and wondered she was not kept up in her Chamber. To which Sir *Edward* reply'd, 'twas a hard

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Thing, and would be so look'd upon, to confine a Sister whom he loved so well ; but she wisely answered, 'twas better to confine her than to let her expose herself, as she found she daily did, she having dined there that Day.

And Mr. *Coats* a Nephew of Mrs. *Clerke*'s Husband, going to visit her when she had a great deal of Company with her in an Afternoon, he came that Evening, being a Day or two before she was confined, and told Sir *Edward* of most of the wild Discourse he had heard from his Aunt ; and when Sir *Edward* told him they had done all they could by Perswasions and fair Means, he reply'd, then she ought to be confin'd, and not permitted to expose herself to all Comers, as she daily did.

In that Week before her Confiment, Sir *Edward* sent for *Hugh Stone*, the biggest of his Sister's Footmen, and discoursed with him to know if he and his Fellow-Footman would keep the Doors, and prevent all Persons from going up to his Mistress, but whom he and his Brother should appoint, till such Time as the Doctors had recovered her ? But that impudent Fellow refused it, saying, she was as well as ever she was in her Life, and thought she ought to see whomsoever she pleased, and that she needed no Physick : Which he swore before Sir *Harry Colt*, though he had owned before (for which see *Mary Avon's Affidavit*) that she was disordered, and therefore chid *William Mills* for taking his Mistress's Guinea, saying, he had lived with her about 18 Years, and she had never given him a Six-penny-piece in all that Time.

And note, Mrs. *Stukeley* very officiously has, contrary to Truth, sworn very largely, That Mrs. *Mary Turnor* told her Aunt that she was mad, whereas it was Mrs. *Sarah Gee* that said so, for Mrs. *Turnor* did not go up Stairs with her Aunt,

but stayed in the Parlour below, when her Aunt was carried up.

Her two Footmen *Hugh Stone* and *William Mills* having refused to keep the Door to prevent Company from going up to their Mistress, all Company being forbid by the Doctor, even her two Brothers and Niece, the two Brothers thought themselves obliged to take care of the Doors by some other Persons ; and to that End Sir *Edward* sent Two of the Ticke Porters at the *Temple-Gate* that very same Day she was confined, to keep Possession of the Doors and House, not knowing what the Servants might do during their Sister's Confinement : And Mr. *Arthur Turnor*, after his Sister was carried up Stairs, covered the Knocker of the outward Door with Leather, to prevent making a Noise when any knocked, and to shew any Visitor that their Sister was very ill ; but her good Servant cut off the Leather so soon as Mr. *Turnor* had turned his Back upon the House.

Mrs. *Clerke* was very obstinate that Night and all the next Day, and would take very little Nourishment ; but the next Night being *Sunday* the 16th, she run to her Cabinet which was sealed up by her Niece the Night before by her Father's Order, her Aunt having the Key in her own Pocket, as also the Key of the great outward Door, and broke one of the Seals, and opened the Cabinet whilst one of the Nurses was warming of her Bed, and the other Nurse run down Stairs and called out for Help ; upon which Mr. *Edward Pordage* being below in the Parlour with his Sister and Mrs. *Mary Turnor*, and some other Company, he run up Stairs, and upon the Noise he made, Mrs. *Clerke* ran into her Bed-chamber, putting several Things and Papers either into or under her Bed, and Mr. *Pordage* asking her how she came to open her Cabinet, and what she had taken out ? she answer'd him,

him, only some Papers, which she said were Verses which she had made for her Diversion when she was young, and which she desired him might not be exposed ; but he desiring her to let him have them to put them up again, upon his earnest Entreaty she did, and went to the Bed and pull'd a Bundle out of it, wherein was some Lottery Tickets, a large Parchment which she told him was her Will (and this was the first Time we knew she had a Will) and a Gold stuff Purse with 36 Guineas in it ; all which she would have had him to keep for her ; but when he had them, he put them all into the Cabinet again, and lock'd it, and seal'd it with his own Coat of Arms, and gave the Key to her Niece Mrs. *Turnor* ; and the next Morning when Mr. *Coates* and Mr. *Sparkes* took the Inventory, these before-mentioned Parcels were by them found in the Cabinet.

Note, Her two Brothers having been informed that Night of what she had done, they thought it the best Way for her Advantage to secure all her Money, Jewels, Plate and Goods which they could find in her Dining-room, and take an Inventory of them, and lock and seal up the Dining-room Doors, which they did ; having been inform'd also that Sir *Talbot Clerke* had been with their Sister at her Cabinet the *Thursdey* before, that she had carried out with her (and he in her Company) several Things, but what they could not tell ; but Sir *Talbot Clerke* and she went out in her Coach together, and they went to his Lodgings about *Greek-street*, as the Coachman informed her Brothers.

For these Reasons, that she might not embezzle any more of her Estate ; Then, and not till then, did her two Brothers think it proper to lock with Padlocks and seal up the Dining-room, Drawing-room, and Closet Doors, and being both very ill, and

and not able to go thither themselves, therefore that Night they writ a Letter to Mr. *Coates* and Mr. *Arthur Sparke*, one, her Relation by her Husband's Side, and the other by her Brother's Side: Which Letter see at the End of this Relation of Matter of Fact.

According to the above-mentioned Desire or Order, which you please to call it, Mr. *Coates* and Mr. *Sparke* the next Morning, being *Monday* the 17th of *February*, did take an Inventory of what they could find, and sign'd it with both their Names, and brought it to Sir *Edward Turnor*: Who when he perused it, found missing out of his Sister's Cabinet four Bank-Bills dated the 7th of *February* last past, of 50 *l.* each, one Bond of 250 *l.* formerly lent to the Earl Marshall of *Scotland*, of some Years standing: And he also knew his Sister had received 100 *l.* more in *Guineas*, and 80 *l.* more in *Silver*, by the Hands of Mr. *Edward Pordage*, together with the four Bank-Bills. And he also found she had received 50 *l.* Part of a Bill of 200 *l.* which she had in her own Name and her Brother Mr. *Arthur Turnor*, payable to either of them by Sir *Robert Child*; which 50 *l.* she received some Time in *January*. All which Money then wanting did amount to the Sum of 680*l.* and making Enquiry after it, he found she had ordered Mrs. *Flower* to pay off four of her Servants their full Wages to that Time, *viz.* *Mary Tyrrell*, and her Cook-maid, and two Footmen; and to Mrs. *Flower* herself about 29 *l.* all which Sums did amount, with the Coal-man's or Brewer's Bill to about 52 *l.* so that there still wanted about 628 *l.* excepting 36 *Guineas* which was found in her Purse as above-mentioned by Mr. *Pordage*, and afterwards lock'd up in her Cabinet, and left there by Mr. *Coates* and Mr. *Sparke*; and yet the Money still wanting did amount to about 590 *l.*

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As to the Bond of the Earl Marshal's, Mrs. Clerke had said when she was in her Vapours (as the Ladies were pleas'd to call it, but indeed in her Madness) that her Niece Mrs. *Mary Turnor* had stole it away, and sent it to the Earl Marshal: Which her Niece's Father having reason to enquire into, he found out one Mr. *Lesley*, a Scotch Gentleman, whom he had never seen in his Life before, but had heard his Sister name him; and asking him, if he knew any thing of the said Bond? he told Sir *Edward*, that when Mrs. *Clerke* was at his House at *Hallingbury* in *Essex* in *August* last, he sent for her up to Town to see the Bond, that he might send down into *Scotland* to claim it before the Commissioners of the Forfeited Estates, before the Time was e-laps'd; a Copy of which Bond he took, or the Date, and delivered it back again into her own Hands before a young Gentleman, whom by the Description must be Mr. *Coates*, who, as was well known, transacted most of her Business—Whereby note, That Mrs. *Turnor* her Niece was then left in the Country with her Father by her Aunt, and some Time after came up for a Week with her Aunt about the Repairs of her House, came down again with her Aunt, and stay'd with her Father till about ten Days before she went with her Aunt to the *Bath*, as usual, in the beginning of *October*; so that she could not make away with that Bond.

And the four Bank Notes of 50*l.* each being still wanting, and none knowing what was become of them, Mrs. *Clerk*'s Brothers having been inform'd, that the *Thursday* before their Sister had been at her Cabinet with Sir *Talbot Clerke*, and taken several Things out, they feared she might have given them to some Body, either Sir *Talbot* or other Persons for themselves in that her Distraction, or to keep them for her Use: And therefore sent

for

for Mr. *Pordage* (who had received them for her) and desired him to go to the *Bank*, and stop them there, in case they should be demanded ; which he did, and desired the Officers at the *Bank* to stop any Person, that should bring such Notes to them ; and they made him give a Bond of 20*l.* to answer any such Act, if they should have Occasion to do it : Which Journey about two or three Times backwards and forwards, with the Charges at the *Bank*, cost about twenty one Shillings.

And the two Brothers also sent to the two Nurses, to bid them ask their Sister, what she had done with her Bank Notes ? And in some Days after in one of her Fits she told them they were torn in Pieces, for she saw some of those Pieces flying about in the Room in the Air. And the Nurses telling her they supposed she had given them to some Body, she said they should fetch Madam *Turnor*, for she knew where they were ; but then repeated again, that she saw Pieces of them flying about the Room. But after she was out of her Bed, they, the Nurses, saw some Pieces of Paper scattered about the Bed, and asking her what they were ? she answered, they were the Bills torn all to Pieces ; and they asking her how she came to do so ? she reply'd, they were sometimes in her Stockings, sometimes in her Shoes, sometimes under her Back, sometimes under the Bolster, and sometimes got to the Feet of the Bed. The Nurses then looking again, picked up the Pieces and sent them to her Brother Sir *Edward* ; and asking her how she could do so, and how she would get her Money ? she said, she did not fear getting of the Money, for my Lord *Carnarvon* was an honourable Gentleman, and she would set him in the Front of the Battle, and he would get it.

As to the Bank-Bills, her Brother Sir *Edward* has them, torn as they were, and is ready to restore them

them when she is capable to receive them, or to her two Trustees whom the Lord Chief Justice was pleased to appoint her, if he the Lord Chief Justice will please to say he ought to do it. And Dr. *Bridges* coming the next Day to Sir *Edward* with Mr. *Walcott*, to tell Sir *Edward* that he must send for his Goods out of Mrs. *Clerke*'s House, for she had Occasion for those Rooms for some other Person, Sir *Edward* reply'd, he would do it as soon as he could; and accordingly did send for them away the *Monday* following. Dr. *Bridges* at the same Time told him he had another Message to deliver from his Sister, which was, to demand her Bank-Bills; to which Sir *Edward* reply'd, that he would not give them to him nor any Body else, but to herself, when she was capable to receive them, and to give a legal Discharge, then he was ready to do it, but he would shew them him, that he might see how she had torn them. And he telling Sir *Edward*, that if they were the same Bank-Bills there were Pin-holes in them, for she had said she had pinn'd them to her Smock for some Time; and Sir *Edward* then looking upon them Piece by Piece, show'd the Doctor the Pin-holes very plainly to be discovered; but put them up again, telling the Doctor they had lost Money to stop the Payment at the *Bank*; and the Doctor replying, Mrs. *Clerke* did not take herself to be liable to pay that Charge, Sir *Edward* told him, that was not his Opinion; for when so much Kindness was done, Mr. *Pordage* who did it, ought to be paid for his Expence.

Mrs. *Clerke* was confined as before mentioned by her Brothers on *Saturday* the 15th of *February*, Mrs. *Stukely* being present: And she out of great Care and Affection for Mrs. *Clerke*, consults with Sir *Talbot Clerke* and the *Westminster-Justice*, Sir *Harry Dutton Colt*, and a great many others which she had summoned to her House, how to be reveng'd of

of the two Brothers ; and the Result of the Consultation was, That they must get *Hugh Stone*, Mrs. Clerke's Footman, to make some Deposition before Sir *Harry Colt* of his Mistress and her Confinement ; which Deposition he made on the 18th of *February*, which was the fourth Day after her Confinement ; and the same Day one *Elizabeth Pilkington*, who had been placed with Mrs. Clerke but a Day or two before by Mrs. *Stukeley* (Mrs. Clerke having turn'd off *Mary Tyrrell*) made another Deposition ; and then Mrs. *Stukeley* also the same Day made another, and Sir *Talbot Clerke* another ; all dated the same Day, upon Oath taken by the worshipful Sir *Harry Colt* — Then *Edward Kirkland jun.* and *John Bayley*, two of Mrs. Clerke's Country-Tenants, who came up to hire some Land of her, who 'tis thought never saw her before, must give Informations upon Oath also before the said *Westminster-Justice* on the 19th, wherein they wondred she should be deem'd a Mad-woman : And then *Elizabeth Tyrrell*, whom we call *Mary Tyrrell*, made an Information before the said Justice upon Oath on the 19th of *February*, and swears — That Mrs. *Mary Turnor* contradicted them in letting Mrs. Clerke's Friends come to visit her ; whereas she knew very well that the Door-keeper had that Order, and that every Body was refused to see Mrs. Clerke, even her Brothers and Niece.

And to the end that Mrs. *Mary Turnor* might be removed, Sir *Harry Dutton Colt* and Sir *Talbot Clerke* waited upon the Lord Chief Justice (as her two Brothers have been informed) with those Depositions, and obtain'd a *Habeas Corpus* for Mrs. Clerke, dated the 12th Day of *February*, but not served upon her till the 19th, which frightned Mrs. Turnor to that Degree, that she, together with Mrs. *Pordage*, came running to her Father's Chambers, not knowing the Nature of *Habeas Corpus's*,

Corpus's, but thinking she must go to Goal immediately. She likewise told Sir Edward, that there was such a Mob gathered together about her Aunt's Doors, that she had much ado to get out, and was afraid to return; for it seems Mrs. Clerke's two Footmen, and Sir Talbot Clerke's, and Mrs. Stukely's, &c. had under Pretence of seeing Mrs. Clerke, kept a continual knocking at the Door, and had raised a strange Tumult. But the Door-keepers observed the Orders that had been given them, refusing Entrance to all Persons, not excepting the worshipful Justice himself, unless he brought Sir Edward Turnor's Order for it. Upon which he threatened to bring a File of Musqueteers, and break open the Doors, with other menacing Words, what he would do, and how he would punish them for denying him Admittance.

When Mrs. Turnor brought the *Habeas Corpus* to her Father in the Temple, he sent to Mr. Harcourt of the Crown-Office, who immediately came to him, and after some Discourse with him, Mr. Harcourt went to the Lord Chief Justice's Chambers, to know when he would be attended about it, who appointed the Day following, being Thursday the 20th, at 8 a Clock at Night; but the Chief Justice not coming from the House of Lords till after 8 a Clock at Night, he wou'd not hear the Business, but put it off till Saturday Morning, and then Sir Edward, though very ill of the Gout, went with his Brother to attend the Lord Chief Justice with the *Habeas Corpus* in his Hand; and finding Sir Harry Dutton Colt there, and as he thinks Sir Talbot Clerke, and one Mr. Morgan a pretended Nephew of Mrs. Clerke's also: Sir Edward did tell the Chief Justice, that he had the *Habeas Corpus* in his Hand, but it was wrong directed; for that he and his Brother, and their Agents, had the Custody of Mrs. Clerke, and not Mrs. Turnor, for she was

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only as a Lodger in the House; but that it was maliciously ordered by those that did it to frighten his Daughter out of the House, that Sir *Harry Dutton Colt* and his Gang might enter and take Possession; for he had threatened that Day, after the *Habeas Corpus* had been served, to bring a File of Musqueteers, and break open the Doors; which was too soon, for the Act was not passed the House of Lords, and the Army was yet under the Civil Power. Then Sir *Henry Dutton Colt* reply'd, 'Twas a Lye, he had not said so. Which Words did provoke Sir *Edward* to that Degree, that as ill as he was, he was going to pull Sir *Harry* by the Ears, if Mr. *Harcourt* had not held him from it; and then he applied to the Chief Justice, and desired him to punish the *Westminster-Justice*; for he did believe twas the first Time that ever such an Affront was given before a Chief Justice unpunished.

But he saying he had nothing to do with any private Cavils, Sir *Edward* replyed, he had never any private Cavils with that *Westminster-Justice*, for he knew him too well to have any Conversation with him, for he was a Raparee, and was to get what he could by Plunder, else what had he to do with this Business, which was now only before his Lordship, and he an absolute Stranger to Mrs. *Clerke*? And since swearing was in Fashion, his Lordship should have an Affidavit of Sir *Harry*'s Behaviour the next Day that he was pleased to hear this Business; and to make it appear, that there was good Reason to confine his Sister, he had Dr. *Mead's* and Dr. *Freind's* Letter to him and his Brother's in his Hand, wherein they had ordered her being kept up, and he hoped that was enough to justifie them; but his Lordship said the Letter was not enough, for he must have the Doctors themselves before him in Person, which Sir *Edward* promised, if he could get them; and

so his Lordship adjourned the Debate till *Saturday* next at 11 of the Clock in the Morning, being the 22d of *February*.

The next Day being *Friday* the 21st, Sir *Edward* sent for his Servant *Benson* from Mrs. *Clerke's* House, whither he was forced to send him and another Person; so that there were four to keep the Doors from the Mob; and Mrs. *Clerke's* two Footmen, and Sir *Talbot Clerke's*, Mrs. *Stukely's*, and two Chairmen of the Lord *Cadogan's*, who all threatened every Hour almost, especially towards the Evening, to break open the Doors; and Mrs. *Clerke's* younger Footman, *William Mills*, cry'd out in the Street that his Mistress was murdered, and they should look at the Back-Door to see, if she was not carried out in the Night.

The said *Benson* did make an Affidavit before Mr. Justice *Powys* concerning Sir *Harry's* threatening to break open the Door that Day. For which, see *Benson's* Affidavit.

And the next Day when he appeared before the Chief Justice he produced it, and desired it might be read, which was done; and the Chief Justice taking little notice of it, Sir *Edward* desired that he might have liberty to cram the Lie down Sir *Harry Dutton Colt's* Throat, since he had the Impudenc to deny so plain a Truth which was now sworn, and Sir *Harry* in the Room present.

But the Chief Justice not minding it any further, called the two Doctors, *Mead* and *Freind*, who gave their Reasons why they advised Mrs. *Clerke's* Confinement.

Dr. *Mead*, after having given some short Account of the Case, told my Lord Chief Justice, That the groundless Jealousie she had of her Friends having a Design upon her Life, and the Manner and Circumstances of her entertaining this Fan-

cy, were convincing Proofs of her not being in her right Senses ; she said at first, that she had swallowed some Pieces of the broken Glass-Vial with the Syrup ; when she was told that this must have hurt her Throat, and the Mischief would appear there or in her Stomach, which yet it did not ; she then said, that this Glass was Glass of Antimony, made on purpose to Poison her : When the Doctor replied, that Vials were never made of Glass of Antimony, she ran out into a wild Discourse of the Wickedness of those about her, who would be sure to murder her one Way or other. Being asked by Serjeant *Darnall*, whether or no some one of her Relations had not given him some hint of her Distraction, before himself discovered it ? he assured my Lord that no one of the Family had ever suggested any thing to him of that Nature ; and that when he told this his Opinion to Sir *Edward Turner*, he received it with a great deal of Concern ; though he replied indeed to the Doctor, that for some time past he had, from many Instances found, that she was not right in her Senses. The Doctor moreover took notice to my Lord, that there is nothing more common in Cases of Distraction, than Patients conceiving an Aversion to their nearest Relations, and joining odd and extravagant Fancies to their ill-grounded Jealousie. He further acquainted my Lord, that for some Years past he had declined as much as possible being concerned with distracted Patients, partly because the Attendance was troublesome and shocking, partly to avoid being ingaged in such Disputes with Relations and Friends of the Patient, as his Lordship was now a Witness to. Upon this Account, when the Relations had proposed sending for Dr. *Hale*, which they, upon his Recommendation, did ; he was the more willing

to

to leave her to his Care alone; accordingly from the Time she was committed to his Management, he never visited Mrs. *Clerke* as his Patient, or in Company with Dr. *Hale*; he had indeed on *Sunday Evening*, 23d of *February*, seen her, at the Importunity of Mrs. *Turnor*, who sent to speak with him, and told him, that her Aunt had promised her to take her Medicines which she had resused, if she might but speak with him; whereupon he, though very unwillingly, went up to her, and found her very unquiet and disordered; he endeavouring to pacifie her, she upon his going away, in a very outrageous manner, got up, and seized upon him, holding him with that Violence, that he could not get out of her Hands without the Help of her two Nurses.

Dr. *Freind* told the Lord Chief Justice, That he supposed he was called thither only to give his Opinion in Mrs. *Clerke*'s Case, whether he thought her in her right Senses or no; and therefore it would be unnecessary to trouble his Lordship with all the Particulars, which induced him to think she was not, and accordingly repeated only all the Circumstances of the Glass, as they have been already related. He said in general, that he had seen her several times both with and without Dr. *Mead*, and that to him there appeared evident Signs of a distemper'd Brain. That he hoped, those of his Faculty might be allowed to judge better of the several Tendencies and Approaches to Distraction, than any other Standerry whatever. That though she had her Intervals of Sense, 'twas no more than the maddest Person in *Bedlam* had. That for a Fortnight Dr. *Mead* and he had endeavoured to do what Service they cou'd by gentle Methods, but that they cou'd not make her comply with their Directions: That in

this Case they thought they could not do a more just Thing to themselves, nor a kinder Thing to her, than to leave her in the Hands of One of such unquestionable Skill and Character, as Dr. *Hale*; whether he did right in Point of Law so to advise, he could not tell; but he was sure he did right in his Physical Capacity. The *Sunday* after Mrs. *Clerke* had been put under Dr. *Hale*'s Care, she had sent five or six times for him, promising to take any Thing that should be directed, if he would come to her; but he could not be prevailed upon to go. For he positively affirmed, that for his own Part, in the Condition he had seen her, he would not be obliged to take Care of her if he might have all her Jointure. He hop'd he might be allowed to add, that they were Men of a Profession, and not of a Trade; and as he believed it would not be denied them, that they managed their Patients with some degree of Judgment and Prudence, so he was very well assured, that whenever their Practice was examined into, it would appear, they had another very necessary Qualification of a good Physician, Integrity.

This Account given by the two Doctors, seemed so satisfactory at that Time to the Lord Chief Justice, that he said there was Reason, or he believed there was Reason for their doing as they did. And then some Affidavits were read on the Two Brother's Behalf. See the Affidavits of *Charles Turnor*, *Mr. Arthur Turnor*, &c.

Some few of these Affidavits being read, some of those Ladies pressed very much to have an Inspection of Mrs. *Clerke*, notwithstanding the two Doctors Opinions before the Chief Justice; and named Dr. *Garth*, which the two Brothers denied, then some City-Doctor, whom they had never heard of, and he was denied; then Dr. *Levert* being named,

med, the Brothers agreed to him, and Dr. *Hale* to be joyned with him. Then there must be two Ladies appointed to go with them, and there being several Ladies of Quality, as the Countess of *Winchelsea*, the Viscountess *Scudamore*, the Lady *Betty Spelman*, the Lady *Katharine Jones*, and many others, the last Two were named by the Chief Justice, and consented to by the two Brothers, but with a Proviso, that the Ladies should not see Mrs. *Clerke* without the Doctors. But the Ladies being in haste wou'd go that very Hour to have the View; so the Chief Justice dismiss'd the Company, and the two Brothers sent Mr. *Edward Turnor*, the Son of Mr. *Arthur Turnor*, to wait upon the Ladies; But Sir *Edward* fearing the too much Complaisance of his Nephew, though he had not been out of his Chamber for some Time till his appearing now before the Lord Chief Justice, yet ventured in a Coach to his Sisters after them, and made what haste was possible. And yet as he feared, he found the two Ladies were above with his Sister and his Nephew, and so they continued till 6 a Clock in the Evening, from one a Clock, before the Doctors could be got together, though Sir *Harry Dutton* went directly from the Lord Chief Justice's Chamber, to *Tom's Coffee-house* in *Covent-Garden*, and asking Dr. *Levett*, whom he found there, to go along with him to Mrs. *Clerke's*, the Doctor refused to go, unless Dr. *Hale* was to meet him, Sir *Harry* told him Dr. *Hale* would be there, upon which they went to *Jermyn-street*, and there carried him to several Ladies, who were got together in Mrs. *Strukely's* House, at which the Doctor was very much surpriz'd; and being told he was to inspect Mrs. *Clerke*, he came to her House, and there found Sir *Edward*, who telling the Doctor,

they wanted Dr. *Hale*, but he had sent several Messengers all over the Town, to find him if possible. The Doctor then told Sir *Edward*, that he would make a Visit to Dr. *Brydges*, and stay there 'till he was sent for.

In the mean time Mrs. *Clerke* expressing a great Desire to talk with the Lady *Katharine Jones* alone, after three Hours talk with them all three, the Lady *Betty Spelman* and Mr. *Turnor*, came down to Sir *Edward* into the Drawing-Room below Stairs, which they should not have done. And there the Lady *Betty Spelman* told Sir *Edward*, amongst other Things, That Mrs. *Clerke's* was the most amazing Distraction that she ever saw in her Life; and that she feared it was harder to be cured than if she were raving Mad. This Lady *Betty Spelman* spoke before Mr. *Edward Turnor* and Mr. *Arthur Spark*, and repeated it in the hearing of both the Doctors, who are ready to attest it upon Oath. And yet the Lady *Betty*, when they were to report the Inspection to the Chief Justice, told him, that Mrs. *Clerke* was as well as she had ever known her; and being put in mind by Mr. *Edward Turnor*, before the Chief Justice, of what she had said at Mrs. *Clerke's*, she reply'd, 'twas her Opinion then, but not now.

The Doctors being come about Six a Clock, they went up and stay'd with Mrs. *Clerke* some time; and then the two Ladies, the Doctors, and Mr. *Turnor* came into the Parlour to Sir *Edward*, and there the Doctors told their Opinions, that she ought to be kept confin'd; but the Lady *Katharine Jones* was pleased to be very mute upon that Point, only found fault with some Things, and particularly with some Sack-Whey, which Mrs. *Clerke* had complained of; that she had tasted it, and found it very hought. Upon which Sir *Edward* sent for one

of the Nurses, and bid her fetch down some of the Sack-Whey, which she did in a China Cup ; and Sir *Edward* offering it to the Ladies to taste of it, they refused ; then he offered it to the Doctors, and they both tasted it, and said 'twas very good Whey ; and then Sir *Edward* tasted, and drank it off, and said 'twas very good, but wanted Strength. Dr. *Hale* then said, it was made for a sick Lady, and not for a healthy one.

As soon as the Ladies were come down from visiting Mrs. *Clerke*, they were asked whether they had observed any Thing so material in that long Visit, as was proper to acquaint the Lord Chief Justice with ? it appearing to both the Doctors, that she was very plainly distracted, and ought to be kept under some Course of Physick in Confinement ; if they did, the Physicians offered to wait upon them to his Lordship at any time. Lady *Katharine Jones* gave no Answer to it ; but Lady *Betty Spelman* was of the Doctors Opinion ; and further added, that she thought there was no need of troubling my Lord Chief Justice.

At the same Time, Sir *Edward Turnor* told the Ladies, that he must keep them Prisoners a little while longer, which was to inform them of something which they had heard complained of that Day to the Chief Justice ; that the two Brothers had most barbarously turn'd all Mrs. *Clerke*'s Servants out of Doors, and only the two strange Nurses left there, and two strange Fellows to keep the Doors. Upon which Mrs. *Flower* was call'd up, and Sir *Edward* asking her how long she had lived with his Sister ? she answered 50 Years ; and then if she had been turn'd out of Doors ? she said, no, never. Then she was asked who turn'd off *Tyrrell* ? She said she did, and paid her, by Mrs. *Clerke*'s Order, and took a Receipt.

Then who turned off the Cook-Maid, and the two Footmen? She answered, she did, by Mrs. *Clerke's* Order, and paid them their Wages to the full, which was the Week before Mrs. *Clerke* was confined. Then *Katharine* the House-maid was called up, and she told the Ladies, she had lived with Mrs. *Clerke* almost three Years; and being asked if she had ever been turned out? She answered, no; but that she would be glad to be gone, for she had not the Liberty to bring her Brother and Sister into the House to talk with them; she was told that was not permitted to any other Person, but she might go out and speak with them at the Door, if she thought fit, but if she went for any Time, she should be kept out as the two Footmen were; for she cou'd not do it upon a good Account, only to keep Company with them, who are Rogues bad enough, and had forsworn themselves.

And then Sir *Edward* desired, that the Lady *Katharine Jones*, and the Lady *Betty Spelman* would make this Patt of their Report to the Lord Chief Justice; and also one Thing more, about pulling down the Goods and carrying them away: About which, the Chief Justice was told that Day, by Mrs. *Turnor*, Daughter of Mr. *Fern* of the *Custom-House*. And Mrs. *Flower* being asked, as also the Maid, what knocking they had heard in the Nights, as of taking down of Hangings, and Bed-steads, &c. and carrying them out? Mrs. *Flower* said there was none; for the Hangings and Bedding had been taken down and packed up in the Beginning of *August* last, when the House was to be put in repair, and were never put up since. And the Ladies being desired to make their Report of this also to the Lord Chief Justice, they were so Honourable and Just, to the two Brothers, as not to

to mention one Word of it; but by a genteel Forgetfulness, left that Lying Report to remain upon them. But God be thanked, the intended Venom of scandalous Tongues, may in Time, be wiped off, as the two Brothers are sure Mrs. *Clerke* (if she has her Senses) must now do, having a full Possession of all her Goods, now Mr. *Coats* is come to Town, who help'd to take the Inventory of her Goods, and sealed up the Doors, and saw her in one of her fits of Distraction: by which means she has been told the Truth by him, which she has hardly ever been since her first falling into her Lunacy. For the Truth is, great Industry has been used all the Time of her Illness, to keep all Persons from her, but such as were in the Interest of those, who, taking the Advantage of her Condition, make a perfect Prey of her. Of this Mrs. *Lewis* is a Witness, who was told by Mrs. *Clerke* one Morning when she got away from Mrs. *Stukely*, that they had endeavoured to prevent her seeing Mr. *Lewis* and her self. And so very careful are they that she should see no Body besides their own Creatures, that Mrs. *Stukely* will neither suffer her to go abroad, nor so much as to lie alone; tho' 'tis well known, she could never endure a Bed-Fellow. If her Disorder be really such, that she is not fit to be trusted alone; why all this Clamour against her former Confinement? If she be perfectly in her Senses, why all this Care to keep her Friends from seeing her? But to return to our Narrative.

The Inspection of Mrs. *Clerke* was made on Saturday the 22d of February; the Report was to be made when the Chief Justice should appoint; who being apply'd to, did order the Thursday following, being the 27th of February, for Mrs. *Clerke*'s Tryal, as her Agents were pleased to call it.

In

In the mean time 'tis observable, that Mrs. *Clerke's* two Footmen, during the Time from *Saturday* to the next *Wednesday* Morning, were perpetually thumping at the Door, (for the Knocker of the Door was taken off by the Lady *Betty Spelman's* directions, she observing, as she said, that every Time there was any knocking, Mrs. *Clerke* was disturbed with it) as if they would pull it down; and all the Pretence was, they wanted to come in, to fetch away their Cloths. But the Porters still refused their Entrance, and they raising Mobs very often in the Days and Nights also, cry'd out in the Streets, that their Mistress would be murthered.

One *Wednesday* Morning, Sir *Thomas Clarges*, as a Justice of the Peace, with a Constable, came to Mrs. *Clerke's* House, and demanded Entrance, (Sir *Harry Dutton Colt*, as supposed, being unwilling to venture any further in that Affair) which being denied, he very boldly sent for a Smith and broke open the Doors, with many Persons about him, went up two pair of Stairs, and coming to the outward Door of Mrs. *Clerke's* Apartment, found that lock'd; for the Nurses had just locked it, hearing a very great Noise below Stairs: But he threatening to break open that Door also, the Nurses ran into Mrs. *Clerke's*, where Dr. *Hale* was sitting with her by the Fire-side in Discourse, she being ready dress'd in her Cloths; and the Doctor went presently, and Mrs. *Clerke* with him, and opened the Door, and there Sir *Thomas Clarges* found her. As soon as they were come in, Dr. *Hale* declared, that he found Mrs. *Clerke* much better than at any time since he visited her, and likely to be well soon, if she was not discomposed afresh by this Ruffle and Surprize. But notwithstanding this, Sir *Thomas Clarges* taking her by the Hand, led

led her down Stairs, but unluckily their Journey was stopp'd for a while; for one of the Porters being below in the Garden, when the outward Doors were broke open, ran and fastened the Door, and put up the Chain, so that the Justice could not sally out. Who then looking through the Key-hole called out to some in the Street, and bid them get over the Wall of Sir *Robert Worstey's* Garden, which join'd to Mrs. *Clerke's*; and one of Sir *Robert Worstey's* Servants, his Master not being at home, and not going up Stairs to his Lady, (who was at home, to ask Leave) did let four Persons go through the House, and so got over the Wall, and forced open the Back-doors in the Garden, and came up Stairs, and then cried, We hope we are strong enough now for you; and then went to break open the Fore-doors again; but the Porters seeing that 'twas in vain to resist, they then went into the Parlour and left them to themselves. [See the Affidavits of *Dole* and *Potley*.] And that Morning Mr. *Morgan* came to the Door, and told *Edward Benson* that he heard the Lady of that House was going to be murdered, and said he believed it to be true. [See *Benson's* Affidavit.] Two of those Persons own'd themselves to be the Lord *Cadogan's* Chairmen. For which see *Potley* and *Dole's* Affidavits.

When the Street-doors were again broke open, Sir *Thomas Clarges*, with Mrs. *Stukeley* and several others, led Mrs. *Clerke* to Mrs. *Stukeley's* House in great Triumph. But before they went they turn'd the Nurses and two Porters into the Street, and put *Hugh Stone* and *William Mills* into Possession of the House; and then sent the Constable to fetch the Nurses and Porters, who kept them in Custody above an Hour, and then sent for them to Mrs. *Stukeley's* House, where they saw Sir *Thomas Clarges* and Sir *Harry Dutton Colt*, Sir *Talbot Clerke* and

and about a dozen Women, where Sir *Harry Colt* examining all four of them, demanded Securities from them, for they deserved to be sent to Goal. But they answer'd, Those who did employ them would be Sureties for them. They told them Mrs. *Clerke* had interceded for them, and they might go about their Busines.

Note, All this was transacted before Sir *Edward* could have Notice of it; but he hearing it, went immediately to Mrs. *Clerke's* House, but was denied Entrance a good while, till he threatned to break open the Door again; they did then open the Doors, and he re-placed his two Porters to keep Possession also (and indeed to watch the two Footmen, whom he knew to be Rascals bad enoug) that they embezzled none of the Goods, and then left the House till this Affair had been heard the next Day before the Chief Justice, upon the Report of the Ladies and two Doctors.

And the next Day, being *Thursday* the 27th of *February*, all Parties appeared before his Loreship, and Letters having been sent up and down for all Persons whom they could get together to make their personal Appearance, there came such a Crew of Petticoats, as was scarce ever seen before in a Lord Chief Justice's private Chamber. And then the Doctors were called on to give their Opinions of Mrs. *Clerke*, Dr. *Levett* and Dr. *Hale*, (for Dr. *Mead* and Dr. *Freind* had no Notice to come) who both agreed, that she was so much disordered, that she ought to be kept up and confin'd from all Company, as the other two Doctors Dr. *Mead* and Dr. *Freind*, had declar'd the 22d of *February* before; and the two Ladies declaring the quite contrary, the wife Mrs. *Stukely* and others desired, some Doctors whom they had brought might be also examined (who could not have seen Mrs. *Clerke* but either over Night

late,

late, or else that Morning;) and first the learned Dr. *Shadwell* was called, who averr'd, That he believed Mrs. *Clerke* to be well in her Senses, and free from any Lunacy as any Person whomsoever. And being ask'd by Mr. *Turnor*, if ever he had cured any Body of such a Distemper? he reply'd, Yes, once an *Irish-man*: So that we were to go far enough for that Proof. Which after all, could be no better than an *Irish Evidence*— He had it seems that Morning been in close Consultation at Mrs. *Stukely's*, for near two Hours: I don't mean in Consultation with any of his Brethren; but either to teach Mrs. *Clerke* her Lesson, or to learn his own, Dr. *Bateman*, the President of the *College of Physicians*, who was the next that gave Testimony, was fetch'd that Morning in haste by Sir *Talbot Clerke*, who desir'd him to come to a Relation of his in *Jermyn-street*, to consult with Sir *John Shadwell* about her Illness. He went with him to Mrs. *Stukely's*, and as soon as he came there, was hurry'd into the Coach, and had Mrs. *Clerke's* Case there first related to him. And it was, no doubt, very proper to surprize a Man of his Integrity, who if longer Time had been given him, might probably have refused to go: And 'tis plain, that they who employ'd him did not think him a Man so fit for their purpose; for afterwards, the other Physicians attended Mrs. *Clerke* without him. Dr. *Cockburne* was the other Physician who thought her in her right Senses: He just saw her the Night before, being persuaded by Sir *Thomas Clarges*, and brought thither in Expectation of meeting Sir *Hans Sloane*, and was appointed the next Morning to meet again. It appears therefore upon the whole Matter, That one of the Physicians was surprized, and another decoyed: But we don't find that Sir *John Shadwell* was at all averse to an Employment,

ployment, where Money was to be got, and Evidence given. — In Answer to all that has been said by these Physicians, Dr. Hale reply'd, That Mrs. *Clerke* was better by what Medicines she had already taken, and doubted not but in some Time she might have been very well recovered: As he had before declared, when she was carried away by Sir *Thomas Clarges*, contrary to my Lord Chief Justice's Order, who approv'd of the present Disposition of the Patient, unless he should give any new Orders, which were not given, because the Ladies did not think fit to make a Report to him. — For the finishing Stroke, Mrs. *Clerke* herself was brought in, usher'd by Sir *Robert Clerke*, who declar'd, that he thought her to be well in her Senses; and had forgot, that about a Fortnight before he had declar'd to Mrs. *Pordage*, he wondered his Aunt, as he call'd her, was permitted so to expose herself; and he had forgot also that he was by when *Charles Turnor* and Mr. *Prior* heard those Words about King *Charles the II.* About which see the Depositions.

When Mrs. *Clerke* came in, she was set down upon a Chair, and then the Chief Justice ask'd her to give an Account of the Usage she had receiv'd from her Nurses since her Confinement. And every Body being in Expectation of her Speech (for she had always the Gift of well expressing herself) She begun with telling the Lord Chief Justice that she went to the *Bath* for her Health in *October* last, and there she drank the Waters, but having drank them irregularly, she found they did not agree well with her; for she drank them sometimes in Bed, and slept betwixt the Glasses, which she was told she ought not to have done, for they made her very sleepy and drowsy, but that was no Wonder she said, for she had been used to sleep in an Afternoon

ternoon with her Brothers *Turnors*, who were given to sleep, for they were a drowsy Family. Then she said they advised her to Ass's Milk, but that did her no good, for there being no Grass, the Asses were fed with Graines and such nasty Stuff, and bad Hay in the Winter-time, so that the Milk could not have any good Effect upon her. Then she had a mind to come up to Town, and sent to her Brother to desire him to call at her House to see if the Painting was done, and at last he sent her word that all was done, but not dry. Then she sent again to know if the Rooms did not smell very bad, and desired her Brother (as she used to call Sir *Edward*) to call upon Mrs. *Flower* to make good Fires to take away the Smell of the Paint, which he did. By that Time 'twas towards *Christmas* : And her Niece telling her the Water's did very well with her, better than they used to do, she would tarry till *Christmas-day* was over, that she might receive the Sacrament on that good Day. But she had sent to her Brother to desire him to go again in a Morning to her House, and not to take any Snuff that Morning, for those sweet Smells would prevent him from smelling the Paint : For he was a mighty Taker of Snuff, and the greatest *Vertuoso* in *England* of a Gentleman, and made all his Snuff himself. Then she told him she went to Mr. *Ernley's*, who liv'd near *Sandy-lane*, and stay'd with him till the *Monday* after ; and he shew'd her all his fine Water-works, as his *Jet-d'eau's* and *Cascades*, and other Works which he had made since his coming from his Travels, for he was abroad about three Years ; but the Ground being very low and very wet she got Cold, and he called one of his Workmen to take her up in his Arms, which he did, and set her down in a drier Place ; and went into the

the House, and there she saw such a Fire as she never saw in her Life before, and 'twas made of Sea-coal beaten or ground to Powder, and then mix'd with Clay and dried into round Balls, and when set on fire it made a very glowing Heat, too hot for any Room, but never smoak'd nor blaz'd. Then the *Monday* before *New-years day* she began her Journey, and arrived in *London* on *New-years-day* in the Afternoon, and in a Day or two after, not finding herself well, she, of her own Accord, took a double Dose of *Rubarb*, and that gave her but two Stools, one a natural One, and the other a physical One; and still finding herself out of Order, she sent for her Dr. *Mead*, and he prescrib'd her some Physick. Then she told how she had swallow'd *Glaſs*, or the *Glaſs* of *Antimony*, and how she took some Physick for that: And from that she told him how she had a Nephew, the Son of her Niece *Gee*, who was a fine Youth, and she had paid for his Schooling at *Eaton*, and now she had a Mind to send him to the *East-Indies*; and she inquired of Col. *Harrison*, who was late come from the Government of Fort St. *George*, what was the Method to be taken in order to it? He told her she must put him to School to a good Writing master, to help him to be very perfect in Merchant's Accompts, which she did, and then called for Col. *Harrison*, who she said had promised to be there (and indeed he stood behind her;) and then she went on and said she asked Col. *Harrison*, what it would take up to send such a Youth abroad? who reply'd, 'ewould take up a good deal of Money to equip a Youth well; to which she said, that his Grandmother had given him but 100*l.* And this Boy's Grandmother had left him 200*l.* Then the Chief Justice said, she had a very good Memory, and spoke very distinctly. Then she began to tell how she was dragg'd up by the

Arms

Arms to her Chamber, and hall'd and pull'd, and that when she was brought up she was ty'd in her Bed, and an Iron thrust into her Mouth which had a great round Knob upon it, which hurt her Lips and Mouth so very much that she could scarce touch her Mouth ; and then they put a great Gag into her Mouth and tied down her Hands, to force her to take Things they gave her, and that by striving with her they had made her so sore that she was all over black and blue ; and that they almost starved her, and when they did give her meat, 'twas at such Times that she did not care for it. Then the Chief Justice told her, she had given no Account of the Spirits she said she had taken, when she went to *Kensington* ; to which she answer'd, A Shadow, a Shadow, Sir, 'twas nothing else. As she was running on in this rambling manner, Sir *John Shadwell* whisper'd her, and advised her not to proceed any farther for fear of — and at the same Time Mrs. *Stukely* wisely pull'd her by the Sleeve. And she remaining still in her Chair, Sir *Edward* desired the Chief Justice to ask her how she came to tear the Bank-Bills to twenty Pieces, which he had then in his hand ? But the Lord Chief Justice answered, that was not before him, nor the taking her Will, and the Lottery-Tickets out of her Cabinet, after she had been confined to her Chamber : And the Lord Chief Justice was desired to call the Nurses answer for themselves, for they were in the Chamber, but he did not call them. Then 'twas desired, that the Apothecary might be heard to answer what he knew, and Sir *Edward* pull'd him forward to tell his Story, but the Lord Chief Justice intending not to hear any more, call'd for several Affidavits, which his Clerks brought to him, and he signed them : Which Sir *Edward* ta-

king notice of, (for he then stood next to the Chief Justice) Sir *Edward* call'd to Mr. *Nicholson* the Apothecary to desist, for his Information was not to be taken.

Then the Chief Justice declar'd, That he thought Mrs. *Clerke* ought to have her Liberty and go where she pleased, and have the Possession of her own House; and asked the Ladies, who they would have to look after Mrs. *Clerke's* Affairs? And some of them answered, Dr. *Bridges* and Mr. *Walcott*. And the Chief Justice then turning to Mr. *Turnor* asked him, if he would undertake it with them to which he reply'd, No, my Lord, not with them; nor did she need any Body, since he thought fit to enlarge her to go and do what and where she pleased.

Then the Lord Chief Justice asked, what Physicians they would have to look after her? And the former Persons reply'd, Dr. *Shadwell* and Dr. *Cockburne*. And then turning about, he ask'd the two Brothers, whom they would appoint with the other two? to which Sir *Edward* immediate reply'd, My Lord, the Whole have no need of Physician, your Lordship has declared Mrs. *Clerke* to be free in disposing of herself, and therefor we will not appoint any Person. And then being asked, if we would not appoint Dr. *Hale*? the two Brothers answered, they did not believe another Doctor would join with those Two, if there was Occasion for it.

Then Sir *Edward* pressed the Chief Justice to take Notice of the Riot, in Breaking open the Doors, and punish the Persons that did it: But the Chief Justice reply'd, that was not before him. And when Sir *Edward* objected that the Affidavit of *Dole* and *Potley* had been read, and that he Sir *Edward*, did now desire that Justice of him

to bind them over to the Sessions, or *King's Bench*, and he would be obliged to prosecute them: His Lordship passed it over, and said, they ought not to have done so.

Then 'twas demanded, that Mrs. *Clerke* might have Possession of her House? to which the two Brothers reply'd, They had no Desire to be Goalers, since his Lordship had declared Mrs. *Clerke* to be of right Understanding, nor did they desire to have any more the Custody of her Estate; for what they had done was only for their Sister's Welfare, both as to her Health and Estate; and to keep the last from being embezzled: And therefore if the Chief Justice would say they had done wrong, meaning the two Brothers, they would give up the Possession immediately to Mrs. *Clerke*'s two Guardians, whom his Lordship had set over her. But he only said, that the two Brothers had not done amiss; that he would not order Possession, but thought they would do very well if they did give it up. Upon which they did send Mr. *Sparke* and one Mr. *George Downs* to those Persons in Possession at Mrs. *Clerke*'s House, to quit, if by her own Desire, the Possession to Dr. *Bridges* and Mr. *Walcott*, which was done accordingly; and Dr. *Bridges* and Mr. *Walcott* gave their Receipt of the Possession on the Bottom of the Order to Mr. *Sparke* and Mr. *Downs*, as may be seen by a Copy of the said Order annex'd to the Depositions.

The Deposition of *Hugh Stone*, taken before Sir
Harry Dutton Colt, Bart. One of his Majestys
Justices of the Peace for the County of Middlesex.

WHO saith, that he hath been a Servant to Dame Sarah Clerke near eighteen Years, in the Quality of a Butler; and that in all that Time he hath not observed her guilty of any Act of Lunacy; and he is surprized to find her locked up in her Chamber, her Servants not permitted to come to her as usual, and two strange Men placed at her Doors to give Answers, not permitting those of her Friends and Relations to visit her, or see what Condition she is in: And when she was forced up Stairs, shriek'd out, and called for Help, and desired to be released; and before she was carried up Stairs, one Mrs. Bridges came to visit her, who was refused Entrance into her House, and that she got to a Window and begg'd of Mrs. Bridges, as a Christian, to relieve her, and that she would get the Earl of Carnarvon, or the Reverend Doctor Bridges to assist her.

Jurat Coram me die

Februarii 18. 17^{1/2}.

H. D. Colt

Hugh Stone.

The Deposition of Mrs. Eleanor Pilkington.

WHO saith, that she was hired by Dame Sarah Clerke on Saturday last, as her Servant; that she continued in her House till the next Day, that in the Time she was there, she did not observe her guilty of any Sort of Madness; and that during the Time she was there, she saw great Violence used to her, in forcing her to her Chamber, and locking her up, and putting a Guard

of Strangers over her: Whereas at the same Time she begg'd that one of her own Servants might be continued with her; and when she desired this Deponent should be continued with her, they violently forced them asunder, and turned the Deponent out of Doors.

Jurat Coram me die

Februarii 18. 7¹₈.

H. D. Colt.

E. Pilkington.

The Deposition of Dame Elizabeth Stukely.

WHO saith, That she was to see Dame Sarah Clerke last Saturday Morning, and found her on the Stairs contending with two strange ordinary Women, and declaring she would not be forced by them, nor confined in her House; but they persisted in it, and declared they must obey their Orders; and that the Deponent has known the said Dame Sarah Clerke a long Time, and has frequently visited her, being very near Neighbours, and that she has never observed her guilty of any Act of Lunacy, and therefore was the more surpriz'd to find her so barbarously used. And the said Deponent further saith, That the said Dame Clerke took her by the Hand, and begged her not to leave her under so great an Affliction; but that those that pretended to have the Custody of her, told the said Dame Stukely she must be gone; and notwithstanding all this hard Usage, she talk'd with Temper and Moderation, and that she observed her guilty of no manner of Lunacy.

Jurat Coram me die

Februarii 18. 7¹₈.

H. D. Colt.

E. Stukely.

The

The Information of Sir Talbot Clerke, Bart. taken before me, upon Oath, this 18th Day of February, 1717.

THIS Informant deposeth, That he hath seen the three Informations contained in the former Part of this Paper; and saith, That he doth well know Dame Sarah Clerke in the same mentioned; and that the said Lady Clerke hath a considerable fointure, reputed Seven Hundred Pounds per Annum, a Rent-Charge; and is possest of a very considerable personal Estate, Jewels, and other Things of very great Value; and that he doth verily believe she is now kept in her own House by Mary Turnor, Niece of the said Dame Sarah Clerke, under Confinement, and against her Will and Consent of her the said Dame Sarah Clerke: And that the said Mrs. Turnor, with other Persons in her Assistance, do prevent the Friends and Relations of the said Sarah Clerke, to come near her, by which there is great Danger of her being injured in her said Estate, as this Deponent verily believes.

Jurat Coram.

H. D. Colt.

Talbot Clerke.

The Information of Edward Kirtland, Jun. of West-haden, in Northamptonshire, Farmer.

Middlesex and Westminster, ss.

WHO upon his Oath, saith, That he came to Town to treat with Dame Sarah Clerke about a Farm, Part of her Estate in Northamptonshire; that on Saturday Morning last, he had Admittance to her, and in about an Hours Conversation with her, he observed her to be a Lady that understood her Business as well

as any Lady she ever talked with, and was surprised to bear that she was the same Day locked up for a mad Woman, though she had directed him to come again at Night, or on Monday Morning, to treat further with him. And further saith not.

Jurat Coram me die

Februarii 19. 17¹/₈.

H. D. Colt.

Edward Kirtland, jun.

The Information of *John Bayly*, of the same Place.

WHO upon his Oath, saith, That he was with the said Edward Kirtland at the Time he treated with Dame Sarah Clerke about a Farm, and in his Opinion, he hardly ever saw a Lady more in her Senses, or better understood her Business than she ; and wonders extreamly that the same Day she should be deemed a mad Woman, and locked up. And further saith not.

Jurat Coram me die

Februarii 19. 17¹/₈.

H. D. Colt.

John Bayly.

The Information of *Elizabeth Tyrrell*, taken before me, one of his Majesties Justices of the Peace, for the County and Liberty aforesaid, taken February 19. 17¹/₈.

Middlesex and Westminster, ss.

WHO saith upon her Oath, that she lived with Dame Sarah Clerke near two Years, served her in her Chamber, and was lately with her at the Bath ; that in all the Time of her Service, she never saw her do one Act of Madness ; that she saith, that on Thursday last, when she was discharged her Service, she was in

in her right Senses, and believes her to be so still, if by ill usage they have not made her otherwise. And further saith, that a few Days before she was discharged, her Lady directed her to let the Lady Clerke, Lady Bing, Mrs. Morson, Mrs. Little, Mrs. Masters, Mrs. Stukely, and others of her Friends and Relations might see her when they came; and notwithstanding her Lady's Orders, Mrs. Mary Turnor contradicted them, and tho' several of them came, they was not permitted to see her. And further saith not.

Jurat Coram me die

Februarii 19. 17 $\frac{1}{8}$.

H. D. Colt.

Elizabeth Tyrrell.

DAME Bridget Lytton, Elizabeth Stukely, Mrs. Charlot Mostyn, William Mills, Hugh Stone, severally make Oath, that they attempted this Morning (since they was served with my Lord Chief Justice's Order) to see Dame Sarah Clerke, but was refused by two Men that kept the Door.

Jurat Coram me die

Februarii 19. 17 $\frac{1}{8}$.

H. D. Colt.

Bridget Lytton.

E. Stukely.

Charlott Mostyn.

William Mills.

Hugh Stone.

Elizabeth Stukely, of German-street, in the Parish of St. James's, in the County of Middlesex, Widow, maketh Oath, and saith, that she, this Deponent, hath known, and being conversant with her Neighbour, Mrs. Sarah Clerke, who lives in German-street aforesaid, for these twelves Years last past, and upwards; and during that Time, always esteemed the said Sarah Clerke

to be of sound Mind and Memory, and of as good Judgment and Understanding, as any Lady she ever conversed with. And this Deponent saith, that on Saturday last, she, this Deponent, went according as she usually used to do, to the House of her the said Mrs. Sarah Clerke, viz. about the Hours of Ten or Eleven of the Clock in the Forenoon of the same Day, and then and there, to her great Surprize, found several strange Persons in her House, and two Nurses, (but not her own Servants) forcing her into her Chamber, in Order, as she believed, as they then informed this Deponent, to confine her. And this Deponent, at the same Time, that the said two Nurses, or Maids, were so forcing her into her Chamber, she, this Deponent, observed, saw, and heard the said Sarah Clerke demean and behave herself with great Calmness, Judgment and Discretion, and no way in her Discourse or Behaviour, in any respect disordered like a Person under a Lunacy or Distraction; and saith, that she, the said Mrs. Sarah Clerke, was not in the Judgment and Belief of this Deponent, at, or during the Time of her being so seized and forced, as aforesaid, under any Distraction or other Disorder whatsoever. And this Deponent saith, that in the Time that the said two Nurses were forcing the said Sarah Clerke, as aforesaid, she, the said Sarah Clerke, in a sober, sensible and sedate Manner, expressed herself, and declared to them, that she would not be made a Prisoner in her own House, and therefore commanded them to go down Stairs, and stood contending with them a quarter of an Hour, but with great Calmness, (her Neice Mrs. Mary Turnor standing by) and she then asked her said Niece in this Deponents hearing, the Meaning of such Usage? To which hersaid Niece reply'd, it was her Father and her Uncle's Order (meaning as this Deponent apprehended, Sir Edward Turnor, and his Brother Mr. Arthur Turnor); upon this, the said Sarah Clerke, in a calm Manner, reply'd again to her said Niece, and said, for what Reason, and what mad Actions have I

committed, to be so barbarously used by two Bedlamite Nurses? And this Deponent saith, that to this Expression of the said Sarah Clerke, the said Mary Turnor replied to her, and in an indecent and rude manner, said, Yes, Madam, you are Mad; and then the said two Nurses going down Stairs, the said Mrs. Sarah Clerke took this Deponent by the Hand, and conjured, and entreated her, this Deponent, not to leave her; and upon this, she, the said Sarah Clerke, and this Deponent, went down Stairs into the Parlour, where her Nephew Turnor, the Son of the above-named Arthur Turnor, then was. And the said Sarah Clerke, seeing him there, calmly, and without the least Sign of Distraction, inquired of her said Nephew the Meaning of her said ill Usage? And the said Turnor, the Nephew, thereupon said, it was thought proper for her Health, and desired she would be easy with it: And the said Sarah Clerke, to this Reply of her said Nephew, returned him an Answer in the Words, or to the Effect following, viz. Nephew, if you will come and be in my House for a Month, and observe what mad Actions I commit, I will be contented to stay at home, but will not go up Stairs whilst these mad Nurses are in my House, nor will I take one drop from them, or any Physick they would give me; and observe what I say, that I lay my Death at your Doors, meaning (as the Deponent apprehended) her said Brothers, or the Persons that so ill used her. And this Deponent saith, that on the same Day, viz. on Saturday last, and at the Time that this Deponent was with the said Sarah Clerke, as aforesaid, Mrs. Bridges, the Wife of the Honourable Dr. Bridges, came in a Visit to the said Sarah Clerke, but was refused Entrance into her House, by the Persons who were placed to guard or shut up the Door: And upon this, the Servant of the said Mrs. Sarah Clerke, that was then present, by the Command of his Mistress, open'd the Window; and the said Sarah Clerke then looking out, directed her Discourse to the said Mrs. Bridges in the Street, and said to her, Niece Bridges,

I beg you will stand by me as a Christian, for I am confined in my own House, and they (meaning those that did so) will not let you in, nor let me have my Liberty, so pray send Dr. Bridges to me, which this Deponent saith, was sometime after done, and he had Admittance to her; and thereupon the said Mrs. Clerke, in the Presence of this Deponent, took Dr. Bridges by the Hand, and sitting down by him in a sedate and sensible manner, told him all, or the greatest Part of the Matters aforesaid, and the ill Usage she had received, and how she had been exposed and barbarously treated. And this Deponent further saith, that after Dinner was over, on the same Day, viz. on Saturday last, the said Arthur Turnor, the Brother of the said Mrs. Sarah Clerke, in Company with one Dr. Hale, came into the said Mrs. Clerke's House, and being in the Room with her, and this Deponent; she the said Mrs. Clerke, applied to her said Brother, and said, she was surprised at this Treatment from her Brothers; to which, he the said Mr. Arthur Turnor, her Brother, answered and said, Sister, you are mad, and must be confined; to which the said Mrs. Clerke again sedately replied, and said, will that be a Credit to your Family, or marry your Son the better, to say he had an old Aunt died Mad? Do you want to beg my Estate? And mentioned several other Particulars to this or the like Effect. And the said Mr. Arthur Turnor thereupon further said, that she, (meaning the said Mrs. Clerke) would have done the same by him, or Words to this Effect; to which this Deponent saith, the said Mrs. Clerke replied, and said, in these Words, or to this Effect: No, Brother, I would not have exposed you, and treated you after such an inhuman manner; the meanest Servant in my House should have had from me better Usage. And this Deponent further saith, that much more Discourse passed between this Deponent and the said Mrs. Sarah Clerke, Mr. Arthur Turnor, and others, during the Time that this Deponent continued in her said House and Company on Saturday last, which

was from about Eleven of the Clock in the Morning, to about Five of the Clock in the Afternoon ; and saith, That in all that Time the said Mrs. Sarah Clerke demeaned and behaved herself as a Person endued with good Reason and Judgment, and was not then or at any Time of that Day, during this Deponent's continuance with her, as aforesaid, in the Judgment of this Deponent, mad or lunatick, nor in any respect distempered or disordered as such.

Jurat 22 die Februarii

1717. Coram me
Parker.

E. Stukely.

Charles Turnor of Parendon, in the County of Essex, Esq; maketh Oath, That on or about the 5th or 6th Day of this Instant February, he this Deponent hearing that Sarah Clerke (the Widow of Clerke, late of Watford in Northamptonshire, Esq; deceas'd) who is this Deponent's Aunt, was indisposed in her Health, he this Deponent then made her a Visit at her House in Jermyn-street in the Parish of St. James within the Liberty of Westminster, in the County of Middlesex, and then and there this Deponent, upon discoursing her, and hearing and observing her Words and Discourse, did, to the best of his Judgment, think, and verily believe, that she was very much disordered in her Understanding and Memory, so as to be raving and distracted : And more particularly, by reason she then expressed her self to this Deponent in this Manner, or to the following Effect, viz. That she had an important Truth to reveal, and that it would be to the Honour of this Deponent, and to the Advantage of the Family, if this Deponent would go about it : Which was, that King Charles the Second lay with his Sister, Princess Henrietta, the Duchess of Orleans, when she was in England, and got her with Child ; and that when she came over, the Duke of Orleans her Husband found her so, and told her, that he would have no more to do

do with her, and that she must make her Choice what Poison to take, upon which there were four or five Sorts brought, and she chose Opium, which she took and put her into a Trance so as she appeared to be dead, upon which she was carried to a Church to be buried, and when they were going to Interr her she made a Noise in the Coffin, upon which all the People present were frightened and all run away but the Clerk, and he took an Ax and cleaved the Coffin, but in doing it cut her Leg, and then she raised up her Head and frightned the Clerk and he ran away; and that there was a poor Man doing Pennance in the Church, who hearing a Noise, came to her, and by her entreating him and telling him who she was, he carried her home to his House, where in a short Time she was delivered of a Male Child, who is now alive, and is Heir to the Crown of England. And then the said Mrs. Clerke said to this Deponent, that he must go to the King, and reveal this important Truth to him, which she had in a Dream by the Impulse of God Almighty as she said, and that this Deponent must bring her the King's Answer. And she then said, That since the said Revelation she had sent over to France and had got the Records of this Matter, and when she was well would produce them, but would have this Deponent first tell it to the King; and she then very often fell into violent Passions in exacting repeated Promises from this Deponent that he would do what she desired, and used other incoherent Expressions and Matters which this Deponent cannot recollect. And about four or five Days ago this Deponent visited her again, and found her in the same distracted and raving Condition, and is credibly informed by the Physician that visits her, and others of her Family, that she continues in the same Plight as to the Disorder of her Memory and Understanding.

Jurat 20 die Februarii
1717. Coram me
Littleton Powys.

C. Turnor.

Arthur

Arthur Turnor, Esq; maketh Oath, That the said Charles Turnor came from the said Mrs. Clerke to this Deponent, and gave him an Account of the above-mentioned Discourse between him the said Charles Turnor, and the said Mrs. Clerke. That this Deponent immediately the same Day, went to the said Mrs. Clerke, and she then repeated to this Deponent the greatest Part of the said Discourse set forth in the Affidavit of the said Charles Turnor.

Jurat 20 die Februarii
1717. Coram me
Littleton Powys.

A. Turnor.

Mary Turnor of the Parish of St. James, Westminister, Spinstre, maketh Oath, That about a Fortnight since she this Deponent did hear her Aunt Mrs. Sarah Clerke (with whom she has lived many Years) give Orders to her Servant Hugh Stone to go to King George, and tell him he came from Mademoisell Toornwarr, who desired him to come to her, she the said Sarah Clerke having Business of great Importance with his Majesty; but in case his Majesty could not come, then that his Majesty would send one of his Chief Lords, or to that or the like Effect. That the same Day the said Sarah Clerke directed Elizabeth Tyrrel her then Woman to order Fires to be made in the Parlour, Drawing-room, and Closet, and Wax-Candles to be put in the inward Rooms, and ordered the said Elizabeth Tyrrel to let all Company that came, who might be ready to receive the King, or chief Minister or great Lord that the King should send, if he did not come himself. That on Wednesday last was Se-night the said Sarah Clerke having been at Kensington, at her Return Home told this Deponent she had that Day seen her Cousin Hartstong, the late Bishop of Londonderry, and that he look'd as well and chearfully as ever she saw him, or to that Effect: Which said Bishop has been dead

dead near a Year, as this Deponent verily believes, she this Deponent being well acquainted with the said Bishop's Widow. That about a Fortnight since, the said Sarah Clerke told this Deponent, that she this Deponent had been at her the said Sarah Clerke's Glass Cupboard, and taken from thence One hundred and fifty Broad-pieces, which were mercurial Gold, adding, that her Brother-in-law, Sir Clement Clerke, had taught her the said Sarah Clerke an Art, whereby she might have made the said Broad-pieces of ten times the Value. That about the same Time, the said Sarah Clerke accused this Deponent of having taken out of her the said Sarah Clerke's Cabinets some Verses she the said Sarah Clerke had made for her Divertisement in her Youth, and of this Deponent's having dispersed, and caused the said Verses to be printed diabolically, and of this Deponent's having taken out of the said Cabinet an Hymn which the said Sarah Clerke had made to Jesus Christ, adding, That the said Hymn had been turn'd to Cupid. And this Deponent further saith, That she this Deponent hath never in any Sort or Manner whatsoever intermeddled or concerned herself in confining her said Aunt Clerke (otherwise than by delivering such Orders relating to keeping the Doors fast, and forbidding Company, and the like, as were given by this Deponent's Father and Uncle Sir Edward Turnor, and Arthur Turnor, Esq;) the same being wholly managed and transacted by the Direction and Order of this said Deponent's said Father and Uncle, as this Deponent is well assured and believes.

Jurat 20 die Februarii

1717. Coram me,
Littleton Powys.

Mary Turnor.

Rachael

Rachel Pordage of the Parish of St. James West-
 minister, Spinster, maketh Oath, That she hath
 for many Years been well acquainted with, and hath for
 some Months last past lived in the House with Mrs. Sa-
 rah Clerke, and that near a Fortnight since the said
 Sarah Clerke told this Deponent she believed this De-
 ponent was an innocent young Woman, and that she the
 said Sarah Clerke had a good Respect for her this De-
 ponent, but that she this Deponent might be the innocent
 Cause of poisoning her the said Sarah Clerke by a dia-
 bolical Power of laying a Medicine. Then the said Sa-
 rah Clerke asked this Deponent if she knew Mercury ?
 to which this Deponent answered, No ; then said the
 said Sarah Clerke to this Deponent, May not you be
 the innocent Cause, and through Inadvertency give me a
 Medicine that may be the Cause of my Death ? And
 this Deponent further saith, that about a Week since,
 the said Sarah Clerke being in her Bed-chamber called
 his Deponent, and charged her to stand with her Face to
 the Curtains of the Bed, whilst she the said Sarah Clerke
 spoke to one Webster a Schoolmaster, that he the said
 Webster might not lay his Hands diabolically on the
 said Curtains. And further saith, that on Wednesday
 last was Se'night the said Sarah Clerke having many
 Persons with her in the House as Visitors, talked very
 extravagantly and different from her usual Manner of
 Discourse and Understanding, insomuch that Sir Ro-
 bert Clerke, one of the Company, turned to this Deponent,
 and asked, why his Aunt Clerke was permitted so to
 expose herself ? or to that Effect. And this Deponent
 further saith, that from what is above set forth to be
 said by the said Sarah Clerke, (which is true in Ef-
 fect, and in Words as near as this Deponent can re-
 member) as also from many other particular Sayings and
 Transactions of the said Sarah Clerke, she this De-
 ponent

ponent did and does verily believe, the said Sarah Clerke was not, and yet is not, in her right Senses.

Jurat 20 die Februarii
1717. Coram me
Littleton Powys.

Rachel Pordage.

Thomas Pryor, of Daventry in the County of Northampton, Gent, maketh Oath, That he this Deponent having been employed, and served Madam Sarah Clerke as her Steward or Agent in managing her Jointure-Estate in the said County of Northampton for near thirty Years last past, upon his this Deponent's coming to London about Hillary Term last, the Time this Deponent used to settle and give up his Yearly Accounts of her said Estate, he this Deponent went to wait upon the said Mrs. Clerke on or about the seventh Day of February last, in order so to do, and to acquaint her with some Particulars relating to her Tenants, when this Deponent was informed by her Servant Hugh Stone that his Lady was much out of Order, and not to be spoken with; however, this Deponent was admitted into her Chamber, where she lay in Bed; and on his conversing with the said Mrs. Clerke, this Deponent had very great Reason to believe, and did and does verily believe, that she the said Mrs. Clerke was not in her right Senses, nor capable of Talking, or giving reasonable Directions about her Affairs. And this Deponent saith, that one Circumstance which, with many others, induced him so to believe, was, that she the said Sarah Clerke told this Deponent he must immediately go Post into the Country to give Directions for plowing a quantity of an enclosed Ground to the Extent, and as far as a Bull's Hyde cut in Thongs would reach; adding, that she had Power so to do. And the said Sarah Clerke then told this Deponent several odd unaccountable Stories about

King

Turnor

King Charles the Second, and others, which this Deponent cannot believe a Person in right Senses would have talked of.

Jurat Viceffimo die Fe-
bruarii 17¹/₈. Coram me
Parker.

Tho. Pryor.

Mary Avon, of the Parish of St. James's West-
minster, Spinster, maketh Oath, That she this
Deponent having served Mrs. Mary Turnor, as her
Waiting-woman, upwards of three Years, in whose Ser-
vice she now is, is well acquainted with Mrs. Sarah
Clerke, her said Lady's Aunt, in whose House the
said Mrs. Turnor lives. And saith, that she this
Deponent hath heard, and verily believes, that the said
Sarah Clerke now is, and for three Weeks last past,
and upwards, hath been very much disordered in her
Mind and Understanding, she this Deponent having
been told by Elizabeth Tyrrell, (who lately lived
with the said Mrs. Clerke, and served her in her Cham-
ber) that the said Mrs. Clerke hath been guilty of
very many wild and extravagant Passages and Trans-
actions, some of which this Deponent particularly re-
members, and are as follows, (viz.) That she, the said
Elizabeth Tyrrell, Hugh Stone, (the said Mrs.
Clerke's Butler) and others of the said Mrs. Clerke's
Servants, told this Deponent, That on or about the 5th
or 6th Day of this Instant February, the said Mrs.
Clerke gave to William Mills (her the said Mrs.
Clerke's Foot-boy) a Guinea to go to Sir Edward Tur-
nor, and desire him to send for the Lord Harcourt,
and Sir Constantine Phipps, to come and judge her
the said Mrs. Clerke's Family, to clear the Innocent,
and condemn the Guilty; and that the said Sarah
Clerke then told the said William Mills, Sir Edward
Turnor would give him another Guinea. And this

Depo-

Deponent saith, she hath heard every of the said Mrs. Clerke's Servants, (except the said William Mills) particularly the said Elizabeth Tyrrell, and Hugh Stone, blame the said William Mills for taking the said Guinea of the said Mrs. Clerke ; adding, that they believed, she the said Mrs. Clerke did not know what she did ; and that she, the said Mrs. Clerke, had she been in her Senses, would not have given him a Guinea ; and the said Hugh Stone said, he the said Hugh Stone had lived with her the said Mrs. Clerke almost 20 Years, and she had never given him a Six-penny-piece ; and the said Hugh Stone hath often within these three Weeks last past, said to this Deponent, he was much concerned to see his Lady, the said Mrs. Clerke, in such a distracted Condition. And this Deponent further saith, the said Elizabeth Tyrrell hath often complained to this Deponent of the unaccountable Usage, she the said Elizabeth Tyrrell hath had from her Lady Mrs. Clerke, since she the said Mrs. Clerke came from Bath, (which was on or about New-Years-Day last) saying, that the said Mrs. Clerke had pinched, run Pins into, scratched with her Nails, and fetched Blood of her the said Elizabeth Tyrrell, had often called her the said Elizabeth Tyrrell up in the Night, and told her the said Elizabeth Tyrrell the World was drowning, and she the said Mrs. Clerke must save their Souls ; that her House would be on Fire, and that she, the said Mrs. Clerke, had none but Devils about her, that would tell her nothing, but she was told it by Strangers ; that the Sun was in Eclipse, and there was to come from the Eclipse, a great many Things, wherein she the said Mrs. Clerke was to make a great many People happy. And this Deponent further saith, That on Thursday, the Thirteenth Instant, she this Deponent saw the said Mrs. Clerke and Sir Talbot Clerke together, without any other Person, at her the said Mrs. Clerke's Cabinet, in the Room next her Bed-Chamber, (where the said Mrs. Clerke kept her Money and

and Jewels) and them the said Mrs. Clerke and Sir Talbot Clerke go down Stairs together.

Jurat Vicesimo primo die Fe-
bruari 1718. Coram me Mary Avon:
Little Powys.

Edward Benson, Valet de Chambre to Sir Edward Turnor, of the Middle-Temple, Knight, maketh Oath, That on Wednesday last, he this Deponent being sent by the said Sir Edward Turnor to the House of Mrs. Sarah Clerke, in German-street, in the Parish of St. James's, Westminster, to be assisting in the Care of the said House, and to take an Account of those Persons that came to enquire for the said Mrs. Clerke, and to observe what Disorders happened about the said House from Persons without: He this Deponent, did in the Afternoon of the same Wednesday, see Sir Harry Dutton Colt at the Door of the said House, who in this Deponent's Hearing, said he was Sir Harry Dutton Colt, a Justice of that Place, and demanded Admittance into the said House; which being refused, and this Deponent telling the said Sir Harry, that the said Sir Edward Turnor had given Orders to the contrary, and that no Body was to be admitted until the Lord Chief Justice had, with the said Sir Edward Turnor, otherwise determined. The said Sir Harry reply'd, That if the Door of the said House was not opened, and Admittance given him, he would get a File of Musqueteers and break open the Doors, or to that Effect. And this Deponent further saith, That on Thursday last about Noon, when this Deponent was in the said House for the Purposes above-mentioned, one Mr. Morgan came to the said Door, and amongst other Things, told this Deponent he heard the

F. Lady

Lady of that House was going to be murthered, and said, he believed it to be true.

Jurat Vicesimo primo
die Februarii 17 $\frac{1}{2}$.
Coram me.
Littleton Powys.

Edward Benson.

George Dowle, Citizen and Weaver of London, one of the Two Men appointed by Sir Edward Turnor, Knight, and Arthur Turnor, Esq; to look after the Street Door of Mrs. Sarah Clerke's House, in German-street, maketh Oath, That on Wednesday the 26th Day of this Instant February, about Three of the Clock in the Afternoon, Sir Thomas Clarges with one a Constable, came and knocked at the said Door, which being lock'd and chained up, this Deponent open'd the same as far as the Chain would permit, (but not far enough for a Child to come in) that then the said Sir Thomas Clarges, and Constable, and others, thrust violently against the said Door, insomuch, that with their Force, the Worm or Hook on which the said Chain hung, was much bent, and the said Chain fell off, and the said Door came then wide open. That then the said Sir Thomas Clarges, and Constable, one Mrs. Tyrrell, and another Woman, came into the said House, and went up Stairs (leaving one Mrs. Stukely's Servant or Footman in charge of the said Door) and in a short Time afterwards, came down Stairs with the said Mrs. Sarah Clerke. That the said Sir Thomas Clarges upon his coming down Stairs, finding the Chain of the said Street-door put up again, and a Padlock upon it, ordered a Smith to be fetched, to break open the said Door, and look'd through the Key-hole of the said Street-Door, and called to several without, and bid them desire Sir Robert Worstey's Servants to let them through the said Sir Robert Worstey's House (the same being

next

next to the said Mrs. Clerke's House) to get over his Yard or Garden Wall, into the said Mrs. Clerke's Yard or Garden. That soon afterwards, he this Deponent, saw four Men (two of whom own'd themselves to be the Lord Cadogan's Chair-men) come in at the Garden or Yard-Door of the said Mrs. Clerke's House, who said, they hoped they were then strong enough for them (meaning this Deponent and his Companion, who were so employed to keep the said Door); That soon afterwards the same Constable came to the said House, and commanded this Deponent to go with him, and took this Deponent to Mrs. Stukely's House before the said Sir Thomas Clarges and Sir Harry Dutton Colt, who were there, and the said Sir Harry Dutton Colt then told this Deponent, if he wou'd not find Bail, he the said Sir Harry Dutton Colt would send him (meaning this Deponent) to Prison; whereupon this Deponent told the said Sir Thomas Clarges and Sir Harry Dutton Colt, that the said Sir Edward Turnor would be one of his Bail, but after some time this Deponent was released.

Jurat Vicesimo die Febru-
arii 17 $\frac{1}{2}$. Coram me,
Littleton Powys.

Geo. Dowle.

Matthew Potley, Citizen and Pin-maker of London, one of the two Men appointed by Sir Edward Turnor, Kt. and Arthur Turnor, Esq; to look after the Street-door of Mrs. Sarah Clerke's House in German-street, maketh Oath, That on Wednesday the 26th Day of this instant February, in the Afternoon, he this Deponent having been in the Yard or Garden belonging to the said Mrs. Clerke's House, and coming into the said House, heard some disturbance, and found some Strangers in the Passage, and going up Stairs, and the Street-door open, whereupon this Deponent ask'd his Companion what was the Matter? who answered in a Sur-

prize, that there were People come in ; that this Deponent immediately put the said Door to, and Pad-lock'd and Chained the same up, soon after which, he this Deponent saw Sir Thomas Clarges (who said he was a Justice of the Peace) one a Constable, and some Women come down Stairs with the said Mrs. Clerke. That soon after this Deponent and the two Nurses (who attended the said Mrs. Clerke) were by the Order of the said Sir Thomas Clarges taken by the said Constable from the said House, to a Publick Ale-house in Piccadilly, where they were all detained above an Hour, and from thence were brought to Mrs. Stukely's House, before Sir Thomas Clarges and Sir Harry Dutton Colt, who were there, and they, and this Deponent's Companion (who was there also) were examined by, and before the said Sir Thomas Clarges and Sir Harry Dutton Colt, who ask'd this Deponent who employed him ? to which he answered, Sir Edward Turnor ; then they asked this Deponent what he did there ? (meaning at the said Mrs. Clerke's House) : To which he answered, he was to keep the Doors, and see that nothing was carried out of the House. Then the said Sir Harry Dutton Colt said to this Deponent, was you ordered there for nothing else ? To which this Deponent answered, Yes, Sir, I was ordered to let no Body in but whom Sir Edward Turnor directed ; that then the said Sir Harry Dutton Colt and Sir Thomas Clarges ask'd this Deponent for Security, who told them that Mr. Morgan (who was there) knew him, and he believed might give his Word for him ; whereto the said Mr. Morgan replyed, that he believed this Deponent and his Companion were honest Men, or to that Effect ; and thereupon this Deponent and his said Companion were discharged, the said Nurses having been discharged before. And this Deponent further saith, that afterwards, he this Deponent stood in the said German-street, untill he saw Sir Edward Turnor come to the said Mrs. Clerke's Door, at which he the said Sir Edward Tur-

Turnor knock'd many times before he the said Sir Edward Turnor could get Admittance. This Deponent and his Companion having been taken out of the said House, and Hugh Stone and William Mills being got in.

Jurat Vicesimo Septimo
die Februarii 1718.

Coram me
Parker.

Matthew Potley.

ANN Barnes, Wife of Thomas Barnes, Citizen and Baker of London, one of the two Nurses who attended Mrs. Sarah Clerke, (by Doctor Hale's Direction) maketh Oath, That on Wednesday the 26th Day of this instant February, about Three of the Clock in the Afternoon, the said Doctor Hale, this Deponent, and Magdalen Pain (the other of the said Nurses) being with Mrs. Sarah Clerke, in her Bed-Chamber; she this Deponent heard some Body coming up Stairs, and immediately after knocking at the said Bed-chamber Door (the same being locked) and demanding Admittance in the King's Name, threatening, that if the said Door was not opened, they would break it down; whereupon the said Doctor Hale asked the said Magdalen Pain for the Key, and unlocked the said Door, and then Sir Thomas Clarges and

a Constable, with Mrs. Stukely, and her Sister Mrs. Masters, came into the Chamber, and took the said Mrs. Clerke from this Deponent, and led her out of the said Chamber; that then the said Sir Thomas Clarges, and the said Constable, took hold of this Deponent, each by one of her Arms, and hawled this Deponent about the Chamber, and afterwards down Stairs, telling this Deponent, they would carry her, and she should go to Newgate. And this Deponent further saith, that when she was so brought down Stairs, she found, that one of the two Men (who were put into the said

Mrs. Clerke's House to take care of the Street-door) had Pad-locked up the said Street-door, so that the said Sir Thomas Clarges, the Constable, Mrs. Stukely, and her Sister Masters could not get out with the said Mrs. Clerke; and that she, this Deponent, then saw four Men, (who got into the said House, through the Yard or Garden of the said House, by climbing over Sir Robert Worsley's Yard or Garden-Wall) one of which was a Smith, which the said Mrs. Stukely had called for to come and break open the said Door; and two of the other Three, were the Lord Cadogan's Chairmen, and then either the said Sir Thomas Clarges, or the said Constable said to the said two Men, (who were put to take Care of the said Street-door) now can you stand out any longer? Upon which, one of the said Men (replying it was then a Folly to resist) took off the Padlock off the said Street-door. And this Deponent further saith, that she this Deponent, and the said Magdalen Paine were then taken out of the said Mrs. Clerke's House, by the said Constable, assisted with the said Lord Cadogan's two Chairmen; but before this Deponent was gone far from the said House, she this Deponent saw the said Mrs. Clerke led out of her said House to the House of the said Mrs. Stukely, that the said Constable and Chairmen took this Deponent and the said Magdalen Paine to a Publick Alehouse in Picadilly, and there kept them above an Hour; and afterwards brought this Deponent, with the said Magdalen Paine, to the said Mrs. Stukely's House, before the said Sir Thomas Clarges and Sir Harry Dutton Colt who examined them and told them they deserved to be put into Prison, but that their Mistress had begged for them; adding, that their said Mistress was very good; to which the said Magdalen Paine replied, she thought not at all, for she (meaning her self, the said Magdalen Paine) had done nothing but what she could answer; and that if she had deserved a Prison, they might put her there; that the said Magdalen Paine being asked by one of the Ladies (of which there were

were near a dozen) besides Sir Thomas Clarges, Sir Harry Dutton Colt, Sir. Talbot Clerke, one Mr. Morgan and others there present, if she (meaning the said Magdalen Paine) was not amazed to be sent for to one (meaning Mrs. Clerke) so well? she the said Magdalen Paine answered, that she the said Magdalen Paine had been sent for to such as were not so bad (meaning as the said Mrs. Clerke). And then this Deponent and the said Magdalen Paine were told by the said Sir Thomas Clarges and Sir Harry Dutton Colt, that they might go about their Busines.

Jurat 27 die Februarii

2717. Coram me
Littleton Powys.

Anne Barnes.

MAgdalen Paine of Cripplegate Parish, London, Spinster, one of the two Nurses who attended Mrs. Sarah Clerke by Dr. Hale's Direction, maketh Oath, That on Wednesday the 26th Day of this Instant February, about Three of the Clock in the Afternoon, the said Dr. Hale, this Deponent, and Anne Barnes, (the other of the said Nurses) being with the said Mrs. Sarah Clerke in her Bed-chamber, she this Deponent heard some Body coming up Stairs, whereupon she this Deponent went to the Door, and upon opening the same saw Mrs. Stukely coming up Stairs, and then this Deponent locked the said Door, and put the Key thereof in her Pocket. That the said Mrs. Stukely (observing this Deponent to lock the said Door) said, Nay, we will come in. That then this Deponent called the said Dr. Hale to her, and told him Mrs. Stukely was coming up Stairs, whereupon the Doctor asked this Deponent who that Mrs. Stukely was? and how she came in? To which this Deponent answered, That some of them foolish Fellows (meaning the Men appointed to keep the Street-door of the said Mrs. Clerke's House) had let

her in, That immediately after there was very great knocking at the Chamber-door, and thereupon the said Doctor asked who was there? To which an Answer was made by some without, That they demanded Admittance in the King's Name, and bid him the said Doctor open the said Chamber-door, whereto the said Doctor reply'd, he had not the Key; but soon after this Deponent gave the said Doctor the Key, and he opened the said Door: That this Deponent then went down Stairs to send to Sir Edward Turnor an Account of what was done; and whilst this Deponent was below, she this Deponent saw Mrs. Stukely and another Woman leading the said Mrs. Clerke down Stairs into the Parlour, who ordered a Chair to be called for the said Mrs. Clerke; That one of the two Men (who were put into the said Mrs. Clerke's House to take care of the Street-door) having padlock'd up the said Street-door, the said Sir Thomas Clarges, the said Constable, Mrs. Stukely, and the said other Woman, could not get out with the said Mrs. Clerke; that then this Deponent saw four Men, (who had got into the said House through the Yard or Garden of the said House, by climbing over Sir Robert Worsley's Yard or Garden Wall) one of them was a Smith, which the said Mrs. Stukely had called for to come and break open the Street-door, and two of the other three Men were the Lord Cadogan's Chairmen, and then either the said Sir Thomas Clarges, or the said Constable, said to the said two Men (who were put to take care of the said Street-door) Now can you stand out any longer? Upon which one of the same Men (replying it was then a Folly to resist) took the Padlock off the said Street-door. And this Deponent further saith, that she this Deponent and the said Anne Barnes were then taken out of the said Mrs. Clerke's House, by the said Constable, assisted with the said Lord Cadogan's two Chairmen; but before this Deponent was gone far from the said House, she this Deponent saw the said Mrs. Clerke led out of her said House

House to the House of the said Mrs. Stukely. That the said Constable and Chairman took this Deponent and the said Anne Barnes to a publick Alehouse in Piccadilly, and there kept them above an Hour, and afterwards brought them to the said Mrs. Stukeley's House, before the said Sir Thomas Clarges and Sir Harry Dutton Colt, who examined them and told them they deserved to be put into Prison, but that their Mistress had begg'd for them, adding, that their said Mistress was very good. To which this Deponent replied, She thought not at all, for she (meaning herself this Deponent) had done nothing but what she could answer, and if she had deserved a Prison, they might put her there. That this Deponent being ask'd by one of the Ladies (of which there were near a dozen, besides the said Sir Thomas Clarges, Sir Harry Dutton Colt, Sir Talbot Clerke, one Mr. Morgan and others there present) if she (meaning this Deponent) was not amazed to be sent for to one (meaning Mrs. Clerke) so well? She this Deponent answered, that she this Deponent had been sent for to such as were not so bad; and then this Deponent and the said Anne Barnes were told by the said Sir Thomas Clarges and Sir Harry Dutton Colt, that they might go about their Business.

Jurat 27 die Februarii

1717. Coram me
Littleton Powys.

Magdalen Paine.

Nurse

Nurse Paine's daily Observation of the incoherent and distracted Words and Actions of Mrs. Clerke, whilst she attended her for twelve Days, 'till she was forced away by the Justice of the Peace.

ONE Night she said Mrs. Flower was ravish'd, she said the poor Creature was come down to the Door, and lay down to hear if she could hear her breathe, and she heard sad Groaning and dismal Cries, and it was Men come in and was ravishing poor Flower; and she said William Mills was come, stollen up, and sat at her Door with a Bottle of Oyl of Sweet Almonds, and sate waiting at the Door to hear his poor Mistress breathe; and that Katharine was crope up in the Corner to attend her Mistress's Call, and hear if she could hear her breathe, and she heard some Men come up Stairs and they ravish'd Katharine, for she was a pure Virgin, altho' she could not read one Word — She said her Niece's Woman was gone away, and had sent some Body to cry along by the Door, that her eldest Brother was run mad, with a Design to make her mad; and then she raved, and down on her Knees, and said she hoped she did not believe it, and she hoped she would not have her Ends — Then she said her Brother would come with the posse before him, and they would cry, Ab, eb, ob, ub, Amen, ab, eb, ob, ub, Amen, and so sing before him, and so divide her Goods — One Night she went and broke off the Seals of the Cabinet, and took out a great many Papers, and when the Nurses see that, they call'd Mr. Pordage, and he came and found her at the Cabinet, and he asked her how she did? and what Papers those were she had in her Arms? She told him they were nothing but Papers she had of young Ladies, on — making, and she would have them out before the King come to take Possession, and he would show the Papers and expose the Ladies; and she thrust them

them under her Bolster, so the Gentleman desired to see them ; so with perswading she fetch'd them and gave him, and charged him to keep them from the King, for she would not have the Ladies exposed — The Nurse ask'd her for the Bills ? she said they had tore them to pieces, for she see Pieces of them flying about the Room ; the Nurses told her they did suppose she had gave them to some Body ; but she said we would fetch Madam Trunor, she knew where they were : But still she said she see Pieces of them flying about the Room ; but when she came to get up, we saw the Pieces scatter'd about the Bed ; so then we asked her what it was, she said the Bills that was tore all to Pieces, so we asked how she came to do so ? she said they was sometimes in her Stockings, sometimes in her Shoes, sometimes under her Back, sometimes under her Bolster, sometimes they were got down to the Feet of the Bed ; so we picked up all the Pieces and pinned them up in Paper, and we asked her how she could do so ? and how she would get the Money ? she said she did not fear getting the Money, for the Lord Carnarvon was an honourable Gentleman, and she would set him in the Front of the Battle, and he would get the Money. — Then she brought me her black Velvet Petticoat and gave me, and bid me go take which Suit of Cloathes I liked best, and she would have given me half a Crown, and I would not have it, so then she would have me take her Night-gown for the Half Crown she owed me ; she put me on a Nightrail, and would put Nurse on another, and bid us lead her down into the Parlour and sit there with her ; and would have us lead her to Sir Robert Worsley's and thrust her in there, and order her Coach to get ready, and the Doctor, and she and I put on a clean Nightrail, should go into the Park together. — She flew in a Passion, and said, some Body had come and we asleep, and had stollen the Feathers out of her Bed ; and I perswaded her to the contrary ; then she cried out, and some Body had come and stollen her Bed, she raved, and

and threw her Chamber-pot against the Boards to awake all the Family for there was Thieves in the House, and bid us go scuffle and get what we could for our selves -- She said she was a Prophetess, and she tied her Face up in an Handkerchief, and call'd the Nurse to tell her if the upper Corner of it came just 3 Inches down her Forehead, and there she lay prophesying ; then she call'd for a Candle, and rubb'd her Face all over with Tallow ; then she raved and said we should fetch Keylway the Surgeon, so she raved for 2 Hours, then call'd for a Boa, but we could not tell what it was ; we carried her a Bottle, but she shook her Hand and said, a Boa ; we carried her the Cloth, but still she said, a Boa ; we carried her Pot, but still she lay with her Face tied up in the Handkerchief, and said, a Boa ; so we could think of nothing else ; she said, a Cup, so we carried her a small China-Cup held about half a quarter of a Pint ; so she made Water in it and some in the Bed, and wash'd her Face in it, but in getting up her Handkerchiefs dropped off, and we see her Face which had been bid for many Hours ; then she cried out, and tied it up again, and said it was inflamed, and that she was a deform'd Creature, and that her Nose was coming off, and fell crying out for Keylway the Surgeon again, and so call'd for a Cloath with a Hole in it for her to breathe through, so then she would have Dr. Mead come to her. — Her Niece to make her easy sent for the Doctor, so when he came she made the Doctor feel if her Nose was not coming off ; he told her no, it was on fast, but she would have it that the Bone was come from the Gristle, then she said she had taken Horn Powder, and it had made her Face come all out in Horns, then she was in a sad Taking for some Days about the Horns.

Then she won't eat any for she will receive the Sacrament every Day, and would fast, and would eat nothing for fear of defiling of her self, every thing she touched defiled her ; then kneeled and made a Prayer of

an Hour long for old Flower and I, and she said, I bleed inwardly, and made Nurse get and blow up a good Fire, and put to my Stomach, but Nurse told her I was well and laugh'd, but she said I groan'd in Spirit, and made Nurse go backward and forward and bring me warm Cloaths for my Stomach, and call'd Madam Turnor to come and help me, and told her she had Death in her Room, and she should help me, and I told her I was very well, but she said, Oh, Child, don't speak, it will make you bleed the more.

Then she would often take up all her Petticoats, and put down her Stockings and pray bare knee'd, and then would get up and Read in another Place and pray, and so go round the Room. — There was a blue Silk Quilt lay on her Bed, there she made the Nurse come and turn the Fringe under, for it defiled her, then she said, Oh ! take it away for it defiles me, I am a pure Virgin, O pray turn it up atop of the Quilt, so we turn'd it up a top ; then she cried, O dear ! it defiles me, take it quite away and pull it quite off, for I am pure and undefiled ; so we, to oblige her, pull'd it off.

Mr. Coates,

Feb. 16th, 1717.

WE being informed that you did make our dear Sister Clerke's Will, and by that Means been acquainted with some, or most of her Concerns.

And you, Mr. Arthur Sparke, having audited most of our dear Sister's Incomes, of her Jointure, and other of her Affairs :

We her two Brothers, do make it our earnest Request, That you Two will do us the Favour, to go to morrow Morning, being the 17th Instant, to her House in Jermin-street, and there cause her Cabinet where she kept her Money and Jewels to be sealed up, and carried into the Dining-Room, and there open the Cabinet in the Presence of some Witnesses, and take an Account of what Money, Jewels, and Bank-Bills, and Bonds she has by her, or any

any where else that can be found, and take an Inventory of all, and lock them them up in the same Cabinet, and Seal it up with both your Seals, and order some Body to shut the Shutters of the Windows of that Dining-room, of the Drawing-room, and the Closet within the Drawing-room, and order a Padlock to be put upon the Dining and Drawing-room Doors, and seal them up with each of your Coats of Arms.

There may be several Papers of Concern in her Cabinet, or in her Closet, in her outward Room where she lies. We desire you would be pleased to have them bound up in Bundles, if any such, and put into the Cabinet before it be sealed up, and then leave the Keys of the Cabinet with Mrs. Anne Flower, to be kept by her till such time as we shall call for them.

There are also many Parcels of Plate, some we suppose locked up, and some in the Custody of her Servant Hugh, and some she called her Chamber-Plate: We desire also you'll be pleased to call for any Inventory any of her Servants may have of the Plate, and see if the Plate does answer the Inventory. If there be no Inventory, we desire you'll cause one to be made, and let us have a Copy of the old One, if any, or a Copy of the new One, and what new Plate she has bought, if any added to it; and then let the Plate be locked up in a Trunk or Chest locked and sealed up, and left in the Dining-Room before it be locked and sealed up.

There will be also a large Quantity of fine Linnen which Mrs. Flower can give the best, and we believe the only Body which can give an Account of.

We desire an Inventory may be taken also of that, and one Copy left in some Chests or Trunks, and another Copy delivered to us, and also put into the Dining-Room before it be sealed up; but there must be left out of the Linnen such a Quantity as Mrs. Flower shall think convenient for the Use of the Family.

This is our Request, which if you two please to perform,
you'll very much oblige

Your most humble Servants,

(Superscribed) This to
Charles Coats, Esq; and
to Arthur Sparke, Gent.

Edw. Turnor,
Arth. Turnor.

A Copy of Mrs. Hartstonge's Letter, to Mrs. Mary
Turnor, Feb. 13th, 1717.

Madam,

IT is with great Grief that I acquaint my dear Cousin
how troubled I am, that my good Cousin Clerke was
so very ill, and I fear much disordered in her Head,
and to me seemed to have a Fever upon her; I would
have waited upon her home, but her Servant told me,
there was a Friend that was put down in the Street who
was to go home with her. I pray God restore her to
her former Health, and send she may perfectly recover
the good Sense she was always Mistress of. If my poor
Cousin was well enough for me to come to Town, I should
not give you this Trouble, which makes me beg the Fa-
vour to know how my Cousin is this Morning; for not
only for her own Merit, but the Honour of being related
must make me have a double Value for your Family;
Madam, being with great Truth, dear Cousin Turnor,

Your most Faithful

Humble Servant,

J. Hartstonge.

Cousin Spark,

MR. Coats being out of Town, who jointly with you took an Inventory of, and locked and sealed up such of our dear Sisters Money, Jewels, Plate, and Security for Money, as appears by the said Inventory: We her two Brothers do desire you, in the Company and Presence of Mr. George Downes, whom we desire to supply the Place of Mr. Coats, to go to Doctor Bridges and Mr. Walcott, who have undertaken to take a particular Care of our said Sisters said Personal Estate, and with them, to see if the Seals of the said Mr. Coat's and your self, remain on the Doors to which you affix'd them, as they were placed and unaltered: And since it is my Lord Chief Justice's Opinion, that we cannot legally keep Possession of the House, to preserve the Goods and Personal Estate, who hath advised, though not commanded us to deliver the Possession thereof to our said Sister, notwithstanding the Riot, and forcible Entry committed, as appears upon Oath, We therefore desire you, that you will in the Presence of the said Doctor Bridges and Mr. Walcott, withdraw the four Persons that we left in our said Sister's House in Possession of the said Goods and Personal Estate, and permit them the said Doctor Bridges and Mr. Walcott, with our said Sister's Approbation, to take Possession thereof, this we request of, and authorise you to do, who are

Your Humble Servants,

Dated 27th of

E. Turnor,

February, 1717.

A. Turnor.

(Indorsed.) We do acknowledge, That the Orders and Directions within mentioned, have been performed, as to the Quitting the Possession, this 27th Day of February, 1717. Witness our Hands,

H. Bridges.
Hum. Walcott.

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THE Reader we suppose is tired by this time, with all this confused heap of Rubbish ; which, yet it was necessary for him to pass through, in order to arrive at the End, to which we propose to conduct him, *viz.* the Knowledge of the Truth. And if he will impartially lay Things together, we doubt not he will be of Opinion, that the Physicians had Reason to Judge, and the Relations to act, in the Manner they have done, with regard to Mrs. Clerke. The Cure was the only Thing that was to be had in view; and as long as that End was pursued, and pursued regularly ; the Persons that were concerned in the Management of her, can despise all the Aspersions that have been industriously cast upon them ; whether by deluded or designing People, by those who believed, or those who disbelieved the Truth of their own Reports. Inhumanity and Cruelty, are the least Things that are laid to the Charge of those Persons, who are satisfied within themselves, that they have acted both with Kindness and Integrity towards her. The general Accusation is, That a severer and more extraordinary Regimen was used, than Mrs. Clerke's Case seemed to require : Which Accusation we allow would have been very just, had the Supposition, upon which it is founded, been true, that the Case

did not require it. But the plain Matter of Fact is this; easy and gentle Methods had been tried by Dr. *Mead* for three Weeks together; and afterwards by him in Conjunction with Dr. *Freind* for a Fortnight more. But these Methods being used without having the desired Effect; her Disorder encreasing by her own Obstinacy and Irregularity, and evident Signs of Distraction appearing upon her, they recommended her to another Hand and more strict Discipline; but not till they had found, by five Weeks Experience, that gentle Methods were of no Effect. They might indeed have gone on longer, if their Design had been to please rather than cure, in footing, and humouring, and prescribing to her to no manner of Purpose; and probably enough, would have had this Advantage to themselves, by that Means, that their Conduct would have been unquestioned, though her Case had been more deplorable. We know not how these two Gentlemen will answer their not getting as much Money out of her as ever they could; but we believe this is the only Irregularity they can be charged with in their Practice. As for our selves, what could we do better, or otherwise, for our Sister, than by applying to the most eminent and approved Physicians, and following the Directions, which those Physicians gave? And what could any Physicians do better, than having found the Nature of their Patient's Distemper, immediately to put her under a pro-

proper Regulation, before it was grown to such a height, as might have been too strong for any Medicines? The main Thing to be blamed, both in the Doctors and us, is their not calling in Sir John Shadwell as they ought to have done, for then she would undoubtedly have been pronounced sooner than she was, *to be of a sober Mind.*

But let us expostulate this Matter a little with regard to the Testimony, that was given before my Lord Chief Justice. It was there alledged by some Physicians, and some Ladies, that Mrs. Clerke was perfectly well, and *of a sober Mind.* But what if she was? Does it from thence follow, that she had never been otherwise? Is any Thing more common, than for distracted Persons to have some Intervals of Sense, and sometimes pretty long Intervals; and yet for the Disorder to return with as much Violence as ever? How far any one, who is able to give a Rational Answer to such Questions, as are put at the Time of Examination before a Court of Justice, is deemed by the Law *to be of a sober Mind*, we presume not to determine: But so far we will venture to say, by the Rules of common Sense, without pretending either to Law or Physick, that every one ought not to be pronounced *of a sober Mind*, who is able at some certain Times to give a reasonable Answer. Mrs. Clerke, 'tis said, *gave a long, but coherent and moving Account of the whole Case, and her barbarous Usage.* Long indeed it was, and how coherent, the Reader must judge:

But who that walks through *Bedlam*-Hospital any Day in the Week, but may meet with the like Discourses from many poor disordered Creatures there, who will tell all the Particulars of their own Stories, in such an orderly and sensible manner, as would make a Stranger apt to believe, there was as little Cause for their Confinement, as is pretended to have been for that of this unfortunate Person?

We will grant still farther, for Argument's-Sake, which yet need not be granted, that Mrs. *Clerke* was, when the three Physicians and Ladies visited her, and has continued ever since, to be of a sober Mind. And what will follow from hence, but that she had recovered her Senses by the Methods that were proposed, and that therefore those Methods were suitable and proper? It is certain, she had taken purging Physick several times, besides other Medicines, while she was under the Care of Dr. *Hale*: And if after this she was *well*, as the Inquisitors affirmed her to be, why should not her Cure be ascribed to the Medicines, that had been directed and prescribed by him? It does not indeed appear, that any of the Deponents did positively avouch upon Oath, that Mrs. *Clerke* had never been out of Order: And yet they ought to have said this, if they would have said any Thing to the Purpose; otherwise the Evidence, even of the very best Physicians, three Weeks or a Month afterwards, could be no contradiction to the Testimony of those, who had been Eye-witnesses of her Disorder so long before.

Why

Why Ladies should be thought better Judges of Distempers than Physicians; why the Testimony of those who had seen her but *once*, or *twice* at most, should be preferable to theirs who had attended her long, and visited her often; and why those who thought her in her Senses when they saw her, should be allowed to know that she was in her Senses, when they did not see her; are Points not so evident to Men of ordinary Understanding, as they may perhaps be to Men, that are more learned in the Law.

There is another Thing to be taken notice of, as being frequently repeated in the Depositions, *viz.* that Mrs. *Clerke* was confined against her own Consent. This indeed is an unanswerable Objection, and therefore we must leave it as we find it; since it is the undoubted Privilege of every free born Subject of *England* to be the Judge of his own Case, and to tell whether he be distracted, and whether he will be confined or not.

It will appear from the Account that has been laid before the Reader, that Dr. *Levett*, who was altogether disinterested in this Affair, and agreed upon by all Parties, as well as by the Right Honourable Lord who heard the Cause, to be as well qualified for an Inspector as any one that was called, was entirely of Opinion with her first Physicians, that there were evident Signs of Distraction: And one of the Ladies, who was appointed to visit her at the same time, came fully into the same Opinion; and it

it was agreed then, that Mrs. Clerke should be continued in the same Way for the Recovery of her Health ; and nothing that we know of has happened since to make any of the Physicians (whatever the Lady did) retract, or think themselves *mistaken* in the Judgment they then gave.

After so particular an Account of this Affair, everyone may judge, if there was a *Conspiracy* in the Case, on which Side it lay ; the *disinterested Physicians*, as they call themselves, if they did not know that a Lunatick Patient may have a lucid Interval of *one Day*, especially after *ten Days* taking *Phyfick*, may indeed, be very fit to be employed as Evidences on some Occasions, but will hardly be trusted by any one in his right Senses, in their own Profession ; if they did know this, they were very wicked and unjust, in affirming that one whom they had never seen before, was not distempered in Mind *ten Days* ago, because she was now tolerably sober and quiet. But the Matter indeed was this, These Gentlemen thought they had an Opportunity given 'em of aspersing some of the Profession, whom they were grieved to see universally Eminent and Successful. Accordingly, before my Lord Chief Justice, they said, that those Physicians were *mistaken* ; though it was impossible for them to know, whether they were or no, so many Days before ; but in private Companies, some of them insinuated, there must be unfair Dealing, and a Confederacy between the Relations and Physicians, which they themselves did not believe, and the contrary

trary appeared in every Step that had been taken.

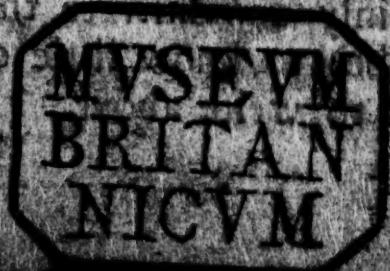
The Sum of the Case, as far as appeared in Court, seems to be this: Three Physicians were call'd in, to see whether four others had done their Duty; and by their unanimous pronouncing the Lady to be *Well*, seem plainly to us to have declar'd in the Affirmative. And we heartily wish, upon many Accounts, that Mrs. Clerke's Health may have been restor'd (tho' there is too much Reason to fear it is not) to as great a Degree, as any of the Inspectors have affirm'd it to be.

The Occasion of this publick Appeal to the World (as was said in the beginning) was from a late Pamphlet, publish'd under the Title of *Mrs. Clerke's Case*: Publish'd indeed by the Bookseller but a little while ago; but handed about and publickly read, not only by the Author, but by two Persons of great Distinction, a governing Lady, and an abdicated *Dean*, some Months before. Which Pamphlet we are sure could not be wrote by any one, who calls himself a *Gentleman*, and we are loath to suppose it wrote by any One, who is call'd a *Physician*. And yet there is such a Peculiarity in the Style (if it may be call'd a Style) as easily discovers it to have been penn'd by a Pretender to Physick; tho' the Hints at the latter End, are so extremely ridiculous as well as foreign to the Case, as plainly demonstrate the Author (whoever he be) to know little of the Matter he pretends to write about.

There

1. There is likewise another Reason for supposing this Author to belong to the physical Faculty, because it may happen to turn to his own Interest, if he can cast a Blot upon the Reputation of the most famous among his Brethren: But then at the same Time it shews him to be as destitute of Practice as he is of Honour or Integrity, since he has given no discredit to such little vile Arts, as the honest Professors of the Faculty always abominate.

2. It is not in the least from any Disadvantage we apprehend to our selves that we take Notice of this infamous fatherless Libel: but out of a just Indignation to see our selves reproach'd by a paltry Scribbler, who is either ashamed or afraid to put his Name to his own Performance. Tho' it must needs be confess'd, if by this Means he can lie hid, he will have shown himself Master of much more Sense, than any Thing he has here publish'd can entitle him to: For tho' he may be Proof against any Thing we can do with our Pens, yet I would advise him to consider, that there are such Things as **Crangels** in the World. But 'till he ventures to show off his Mask, and let us know Who he is, we shall trouble ourselves no further either with him or his Works: And probably not then neither (only by way of Crangely) unless he should happen to make a better Figure in his own Dress, than he does in his Disguise.



Edmund Trelawny

Archib. Trelawny